

NRG ENERGY, INC. 2005 FORM 10-K

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-K

- ☒ **ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the Fiscal Year ended December 31, 2005.

- ☐ **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the Transition period from _____ to _____.

Commission file No. 001-15891

NRG Energy, Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

211 Carnegie Center
Princeton, New Jersey
(Address of principal executive offices)

41-1724239
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

08540
(Zip Code)

(609) 524-4500

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class

Name of Exchange on Which Registered

5.75% Mandatorily Convertible Preferred Stock

New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§ 229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer ☒ Accelerated filer ☐ Non-accelerated filer ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

As of the last business day of the most recently completed second fiscal quarter, the aggregate market value of the common stock of the registrant held by non-affiliates was approximately \$3,272,968,478 based on the closing sale price of \$37.60 as reported on the New York Stock Exchange.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Section 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 subsequent to the distribution of securities under a plan confirmed by a court. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock as of the latest practicable date.

Class

Outstanding at March 3, 2006

Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share

136,975,275

Documents Incorporated by Reference:

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the 2006 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on April 28, 2006

NRG ENERGY, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

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Glossary of Terms

When the following terms and abbreviations appear in the text of this report, they have the meanings indicated below:

APB	Accounting Principles Board
APB 18	APB Opinion No. 18, <i>"The Equity Method of Accounting for Investments in Common Stock."</i>
Average gross heat rate	The product of dividing (a) fuel consumed in BTU's by (b) KWh generated.
BART	Best Available Retrofit Technology
Baseload capacity	Electric power generation capacity normally expected to serve loads on an around-the-clock basis throughout the calendar year.
BTA	Best Technology Available
BTU	British Thermal Unit
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAIR	Clean Air Interstate Rule
Cal ISO	California Independent System Operator.
CAMR	Clean Air Mercury Rule
Capacity factor	The ratio of the actual net electricity generated to the energy that could have been generated at continuous full-power operation during the year.
CDWR	California Department of Water Resources
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act
CL&P	Connecticut Light & Power
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission,
CTDEP	Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
CWA	Clean Water Act
DNREC	Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
EAF	The total available hours a unit is available in a year minus the sum of all partial outage events in a year converted to equivalent hours, expressed as a percent of all hours in the year
EFOR	Equivalent Forced Outage Rates — considers the equivalent impact that forced de-ratings have in addition to full forced outages
EITF	Emerging Issues Task Force
EITF 91-6	EITF No. 91-6, <i>"Revenue Recognition of Long-Term Power Sales Contracts."</i>
EITF 02-3	EITF Issue No. 02-3, <i>"Issues Involved in Accounting for Derivative Contracts Held for Trading Purposes and Contracts Involved in Energy Trading and Risk Management Activities"</i>
EITF 03-11	EITF Issue No. 03-11, <i>"Reporting Realized Gains and Losses on Derivative Instruments that are Subject to FASB Statement No. 133 and Not "Held for Trading Purposes" as Defined in EITF Issue No. 02-03."</i>
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency

ERCOT	Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the Independent System Operator and the regional reliability coordinator of the various electricity systems within Texas
ERISA	Employee Retirement Income Security Act
Expected annual baseload generation	The net baseload capacity limited by economic factors (relationship between cost of generation and market price) and reliability factors (scheduled and unplanned outages)
FASB	Financial Accounting Standards Board, the designated organization for establishing standards for financial accounting and reporting
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FF-ACI	Fabric Filter with Activated Carbon Injection
FGD	Flue Gas Desulphurization
FIN	Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation
FIN 45	FIN No. 45 <i>“Guarantor’s Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others.”</i>
FIN 46R	FIN No. 46 (Revised 2003), <i>“Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities”</i>
FIP	Federal Implementation Plan
Fresh Start	Reporting requirements as defined by SOP 90-7
FSP	FASB Staff Position (interpretations of standards issued by the staff of the FASB)
FSP 106-1	FSP 106-1, <i>“Accounting and Disclosure Requirements Related to the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003”</i>
FSP 106-2	FSP 106-2, <i>“Accounting and Disclosure Requirements Related to the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003”</i>
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
IGCC	Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
ISO	Independent System Operator, also referred to as regional transmission organizations, or RTO
ISO-NE	ISO New England, Inc.
KWh	kilowatt-hours
LADEQ	Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
LIBOR	London Inter-Bank Offered Rate
LNB/OFA	Low NO _x Burner with Over Fire Air
MACT	Maximum Achievable Control Technology
MADEP	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Moody’s	Moody’s Investors Services, Inc.
MISO	Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator
MW	Megawatts
MWh	Saleable megawatt hours net of internal/parasitic load megawatt-hours
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
Net baseload capacity	Nominal summer net megawatt capacity of power generation adjusted for ownership and parasitic load, and excluding capacity from mothballed units as of December 31, 2005

Net Capacity Factor	Net actual generation divided by net maximum capacity for the period hours
Net Generating Capacity	Nominal summer capacity, net of auxiliary power
NiMo	Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
NO _x	Nitrogen oxides
NOL	Net operating loss
NRC	United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NSR	New Source Review
NYISO	New York Independent System Operator.
NYSDEC	New York Department of Environmental Conservation
OCI	Other Comprehensive Income
OTC	Ozone Transport Commission
PJM	PJM Interconnection, LLC
PJM Market	The wholesale and retail electric market operated by PJM primarily in all or parts of Delaware, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.
PM _{2.5}	Fine particulate matter
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration
PUCT	Public Utility Commission of Texas
Powder River Basin, or PRB Coal	Coal produced in the northeastern Wyoming and southeastern Montana, which coal has low sulfur content
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RECLAIM	Regional Clean Air Incentives Market
RGGI	Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
RMR	Reliability must-run
RTC	RECLAIM Trading Credit
RTO	Regional transmission organization
S&P	Standard & Poor's, a division of the McGraw Hill Companies
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986
Sarbanes-Oxley	Sarbanes — Oxley Act of 2002
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCR	Selective Catalytic Reduction
SDG&E	San Diego Gas & Electric
SEC	United States Securities and Exchange Commission
SERC	Southeastern Electric Reliability Council/Entergy
SFAS	Statement of Financial Accounting Standards issued by the FASB
SFAS 71	SFAS No. 71 <i>"Accounting for the Effects of Certain Types of Regulation"</i>
SFAS 87	SFAS No. 87, <i>"Employers' Accounting for Pensions"</i>
SFAS 106	SFAS No. 106, <i>"Employers' Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions"</i>
SFAS 109	SFAS No. 109, <i>"Accounting for Income Taxes"</i>
SFAS 123	SFAS No. 123, <i>"Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation"</i>
SFAS 123R	SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), <i>"Share-Based Payment"</i>
SFAS 133	SFAS No. 133, <i>"Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities"</i>

SFAS 140	SFAS No. 140, <i>“Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities, a replacement of FASB Statement 125”</i>
SFAS 142	SFAS No. 142, <i>“Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets”</i>
SFAS 143	SFAS No. 143, <i>“Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations”</i>
SFAS 144	SFAS No. 144, <i>“Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets”</i>
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SO ₂	Sulfur dioxide
SOP	Statement of Position issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
SOP 90-7	Statement of Position 90-7 <i>“Financial Reporting by Entities in Reorganization Under the Bankruptcy Code”</i>
SPP	Southwest Power Pool
STP	South Texas Project — Texas Genco’s nuclear generating facility located in Bay City, TX of which we own a 44% interest
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Texas Genco	Texas Genco LLC
US	United States of America
USEPA	US Environmental Protection Agency
US GAAP	Accounting principles generally accepted in the US
WCP	WCP (Generation) Holdings, Inc.

PART I

Item 1 — *Business*

For purposes of discussing our business in this Business Section of our Annual Report, “we,” “our,” “us,” the “combined company” and the “Company” refer to NRG and Texas Genco on a combined basis, together with their consolidated subsidiaries, after giving effect to the completion of the acquisition of Texas Genco, or the Acquisition. The terms “MW” and “MWh” refer to megawatts and megawatt-hours. The megawatt figures provided represent nominal summer net megawatt capacity of power generated as adjusted for the combined company’s ownership position excluding capacity from inactive/mothballed units as of December 31, 2005. NRG has previously shown gross MWs when presenting its operations. Capacity is tested following standard industry practices. The combined company’s numbers denote saleable MWs net of internal/parasitic load. The term “expected annual baseload generation” refers to the net baseload capacity limited by economic factors (relationship between cost of generation and market price) and reliability factors (scheduled and unplanned outages).

General

We are a leading wholesale power generation company with a significant presence in many of the major competitive power markets in the United States. We are primarily engaged in the ownership and operation of power generation facilities, purchasing fuel and transportation services to support our power plant operations, and marketing and trading energy, capacity and related products in the competitive markets in which we operate.

On February 2, 2006, NRG acquired Texas Genco LLC by purchasing all of the outstanding equity interests in Texas Genco. The purchase price of approximately \$6.1 billion consisted of approximately \$4.4 billion in cash and the issuance of approximately 35.4 million shares of NRG’s common stock valued at approximately \$1.7 billion, and we assumed a total of approximately \$2.7 billion of Texas Genco’s outstanding debt. The purchase price is subject to adjustment due to acquisition costs. Texas Genco is now a wholly-owned subsidiary of NRG, and will be managed and accounted for as a new business segment to be referred to as NRG Texas.

As of December 31, 2005, the combined company has a total global portfolio of 235 operating generation units at 61 power generation plants, with an aggregate generation capacity of approximately 24,580 MW. Within the United States, the combined company has a large and geographically diversified power generation portfolio with approximately 22,663 MW of generation capacity in 213 generating units at 53 plants. These power generation facilities are primarily located in our core regions in the ERCOT market (approximately 10,658 MW), and in the Northeast (approximately 7,099 MW), South Central (approximately 2,395 MW) and Western (approximately 1,044 MW) regions of the United States. Our facilities consist primarily of baseload, intermediate and peaking power generation facilities, and also include thermal energy production and energy resource recovery plants. The sale of capacity and power from baseload generation facilities accounts for the majority of our revenues and provides a stable source of cash flow. In addition, our diverse generation portfolio provides us with opportunities to capture additional revenues by selling power into our core regions during periods of peak demand, offering capacity or similar products to retail electric providers and others, and providing ancillary services to support system reliability.

On December 27, 2005, we entered into a definitive agreement with Dynegy, Inc., to acquire Dynegy’s 50% of WCP. When completed this acquisition will give NRG sole ownership of WCP’s 1,800 MW of generation capacity in California. Our disclosures as to MWs and financial information do not include the remaining 50% interest in WCP.

Our Strategy

Our strategy is to optimize the value of our generation assets while using that asset base as a platform for enhanced financial performance which can be sustained and expanded upon in years to come. We plan to maintain and enhance our position as a leading wholesale power generation company in the United States in a

cost effective and risk-mitigating manner in order to serve the bulk power requirements of our customer base and other entities that offer load, or otherwise consume wholesale electricity products and services in bulk. Our strategy includes the following elements:

Increase value from our existing assets. We have a highly diversified portfolio of power generation assets in terms of region, fuel type and dispatch levels. We will continue to focus on extracting value from our portfolio by improving plant performance, reducing costs and harnessing our advantages of scale in the procurement of fuels: a strategy that we have branded “FORNRG,” or Focus on ROIC@NRG.

Pursue intrinsic growth opportunities at existing sites in our core regions. We are favorably positioned to pursue growth opportunities through expansion of our existing generating capacity. We intend to invest in our existing assets through plant improvements, repowering and brownfield development to meet anticipated regional requirements for new capacity. We expect that these efforts will provide more efficient energy, lower our delivered cost, expand our electricity production capability and improve our ability to dispatch economically across sectors of the merit order, including baseload, intermediate and peaking generation.

Maintain financial strength and flexibility. We remain focused on increasing cash flow and maintaining liquidity and balance sheet strength in order to ensure continued access to capital for growth; enhancing risk-adjusted returns; and providing flexibility in executing our business strategy. We will continue our focus on maintaining operational and financial controls designed to ensure that our financial position remains strong.

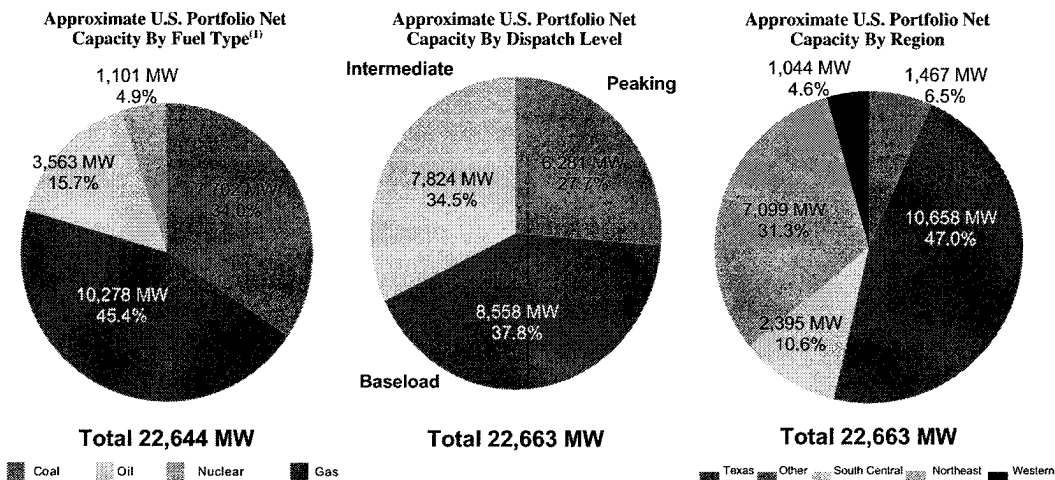
Reduce the volatility of our cash flows through asset-based commodity hedging activities. We will continue to execute asset-based risk management, hedging, marketing and trading strategies within well-defined risk and liquidity guidelines in order to manage the value of our physical and contractual assets. Our marketing and hedging philosophy is centered on generating stable returns from our portfolio of power generation assets while preserving the ability to capitalize on strong spot market conditions and to capture the extrinsic value of our portfolio. We believe that we can successfully execute this strategy by taking advantage of our expertise in the trading and marketing of power and ancillary services, our knowledge of markets, our flexible financial structure and our diverse portfolio of power generation assets.

Participate in continued industry consolidation. We will continue to pursue selective acquisitions, joint ventures and divestitures to enhance our asset mix and competitive position in our core regions to meet the fuel and dispatch requirements in these regions. We intend to concentrate on acquisition and joint venture opportunities that present attractive risk-adjusted returns. We will also opportunistically pursue other strategic transactions, including mergers, acquisitions or divestitures during the consolidation of the power generation industry in the United States.

Our Competitive Strengths

Scale and diversity of assets. The combined company has one of the largest and most diversified power generation portfolios in the United States with approximately 22,663 MW of generation capacity in 213 generating units at 53 plants as of December 31, 2005. Our power generation assets are diversified by fuel type, dispatch level and region, which helps mitigate the risks associated with fuel price volatility and market demand cycles. The combined company’s U.S. baseload facilities consist of approximately 8,558 MW of generation capacity and provide the combined company with a significant source of stable cash flow, while the combined company’s intermediate and peaking facilities, with approximately 14,105 MW of generation capacity, provide the combined company with opportunities to capture the significant upside potential that can arise from time to time during periods of high demand. In addition, approximately 10% of the combined company’s domestic generation facilities have dual or multiple fuel capability, which allows most of these plants to dispatch with the lowest cost fuel option.

The following chart demonstrates the diversification of the combined company's generation assets:



(1) Reflects only domestic generation capacity; 19 MW of wood-fired generation capacity not shown.

Stability of future cash flows. We have sold forward a significant amount of our expected baseload generation capacity for 2006 and 2007. As of December 31, 2005 the company has sold forward an average of 77% of its baseload generation in the Texas (ERCOT) market for 2006 through 2009. As of the same date, the combined company sold an average of 78% of its expected annual baseload generation in the SERC — Entergy market for 2006 through 2009, and approximately 76% of its expected annual baseload generation in the Northeast region for 2006. In addition, as of December 31, 2005, the combined company purchased forward under fixed price fuel contracts (with contractually-specified price escalators) to provide fuel for approximately 81% of its expected baseload coal generation output from 2006 to 2009.

Favorable market dynamics for baseload power plants. As of December 31, 2005, approximately 39% of the company's domestic generation capacity has been fueled by coal or nuclear fuel. In many of the competitive markets where we operate, the price of power typically is set by the marginal costs of natural gas-fired and oil-fired power plants. These oil and gas fired plants currently have substantially higher variable costs than our solid fuel baseload power plants. As a result of our lower marginal cost for baseload coal and nuclear generation assets, we expect such assets to generate power nearly 100% of the time they are available.

Locational advantages. Many of our generation assets are located within densely populated areas that are characterized by significant constraints on the transmission of power from generators outside the region. Consequently, these assets are able to benefit from the higher prices that prevail for energy in these markets during periods of transmission constraints. The Company has generation assets located within New York City, southwestern Connecticut, Houston and the Los Angeles and San Diego load basins, all areas with constraints on the transmission of electricity. This allows us to capture additional revenues through offering capacity to retail electric providers and other entities serving load within the transmission constrained areas, selling power at prevailing market prices during periods of peak demand and providing ancillary services in support of system reliability.

Performance Metrics

The following table contains a summary of NRG's North American power generation revenues from majority-owned subsidiaries for the year 2005 (figures for our Texas facilities are not included):

<u>Region</u>	<u>Energy Revenues</u>	<u>Capacity Revenues</u>	<u>Alternative Energy Revenues</u>	<u>O&M Fees</u>	<u>Other Revenues***</u>	<u>Total Revenues</u>
(In millions)						
Northeast	\$ 1,444	\$ 291	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (181)	\$ 1,554
South Central	330	186	—	—	36	552
Western*	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other	11	5	2	—	(3)	15
Total North America Power Generation**	<u>\$ 1,786</u>	<u>\$ 482</u>	<u>\$ 2</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ (148)</u>	<u>\$ 2,122</u>

* Consists of our wholly-owned subsidiary, NEO California LLC. Does not include revenues which were produced by assets in which we have a 50% equity interest, primarily West Coast Power, and are reported under the equity method of accounting.

** For additional information — see Item 15 — Note 21 of the Consolidated Financial Statements for our consolidated revenues by segment disclosures.

*** Includes miscellaneous revenues from the sale of natural gas, recovery of incurred costs under reliability must-run agreements, revenues received under leasing arrangements, revenues from maintenance, revenues from the sale of ancillary services and revenues from entering into certain financial transactions, offset by contract amortization.

In understanding our business, we believe that certain performance metrics are particularly important. These are industry statistics defined by the North American Electric Reliability Council and are more fully described below:

Annual Equivalent Availability Factor, or EAF: is the total available hours a unit is available in a year minus the sum of all partial outage events in a year converted to equivalent hours (EH), where EH is partial megawatts lost divided by unit net available capacity times hours of each event, and the net of these hours is divided by hours in a year to achieve EAF in percent.

Average gross heat rate: We calculate the average heat rate for our fossil-fired power plants by dividing (a) fuel consumed in Btus by (b) KWh generated. The resultant heat rate is a measure of fuel efficiency.

Net Capacity Factor: Net actual generation divided by net maximum capacity for the period hours.

The tables below present the North American power generation performance metrics for owned assets discussed above for the years ended December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2004 (figures for our Texas facilities are not included):

Year Ended December 31, 2005					
<u>Region</u>	<u>Net Owned Capacity (MW)</u>	<u>Net Generation (MWh)</u>	<u>Annual Equivalent Availability Factor</u>	<u>Average Net Heat Rate Btu/KWh</u>	<u>Net Capacity Factor</u>
Northeast*	7,099	15,251,449	87.2%	11,146	22.9%
South Central	2,395	10,116,622	90.9%	10,518	50.6%
Western**	1,044	1,588,962	86.5%	11,109	18.0%
Other North America	1,467	247,721	90.6%	14,297	3.4%

Year Ended December 31, 2004					
<u>Region</u>	<u>Net Owned Capacity (MW)</u>	<u>Net Generation (MWh)</u>	<u>Annual Equivalent Availability Factor</u>	<u>Average Net Heat Rate Btu/KWh</u>	<u>Net Capacity Factor</u>
Northeast*	7,099	13,205,040	85.6%	10,823	19.8%
South Central	2,395	10,470,786	92.1%	10,494	52.9%
Western**	1,044	2,291,844	88.4%	10,624	25.6%
Other North America***	1,467	147,376	97.3%	N/A	2.4%

* Net Generation and the other metrics do not include Keystone and Conemaugh.

** Includes 50% of the generation owned through our West Coast Power partnership.

*** Excludes operations for Kendall, McClain and Batesville which were sold during 2004.

The tables below present the Australian power generation performance metrics discussed above for the years ended December 31, 2005 and December 31, 2004:

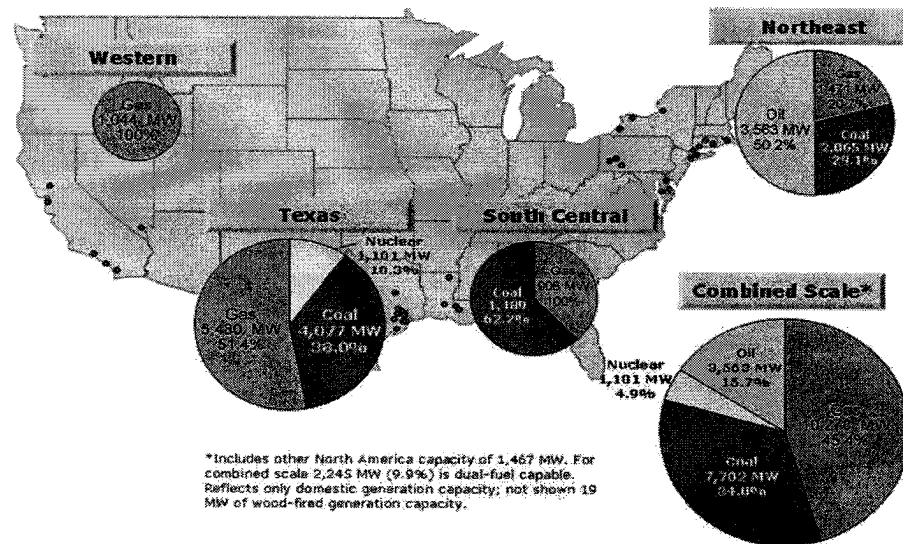
Year Ended December 31, 2005					
<u>Region</u>	<u>Net Owned Capacity (MW)</u>	<u>Net Generation (MWh)</u>	<u>Annual Equivalent Availability Factor</u>	<u>Average Net Heat Rate Btu/KWh</u>	<u>Net Capacity Factor</u>
Flinders Northern Power Station	480	3,990,642	95.8%	10,900	94.9%
Flinders Playford Power Station	220	458,180	57.9%	15,900	23.8%
Gladstone*	605	2,808,335	93.3%	10,300	53.0%

Year Ended December 31, 2004					
<u>Region</u>	<u>Net Owned Capacity (MW)</u>	<u>Net Generation (MWh)</u>	<u>Annual Equivalent Availability Factor</u>	<u>Average Net Heat Rate Btu/KWh</u>	<u>Net Capacity Factor</u>
Flinders Northern Power Station	480	3,924,196	93.2%	11,400	93.1%
Flinders Playford Power Station	220	365,642	46.0%	16,300	18.9%
Gladstone*	605	2,879,236	83.2%	10,200	54.2%

* Includes 37.5% of the generation owned through our Gladstone Unincorporated Joint Venture.

Generation Asset Overview

We have a significant power generation presence in many of the major competitive power markets of the United States as set out below:



Texas (ERCOT)

As of December 31, 2005, Texas Genco's generation assets in the ERCOT market consisted of approximately 5,178 MW of baseload generation assets and approximately 5,480 MW of intermediate, cyclic and peaking natural gas-fired assets. We expect that the combined company will realize a substantial majority of its revenue and cash flow from the sale of power from its three baseload power plants located in the ERCOT market that use solid fuel: W. A. Parish (coal), Limestone (lignite and PRB coal) and an undivided 44% interest in two nuclear generation units at STP (nuclear fuel). Because plants are generally dispatched in order of lowest operating cost, and approximately 73% of the net generation capacity in the ERCOT market was natural gas-fired, we expect these three baseload plants to operate nearly 100% of the time (subject to planned and forced outages) due to their low marginal costs relative to natural gas-fired plants.

The following table summarizes the ERCOT baseload forward power sales and natural gas swap agreements that extend beyond December 31, 2005. The amounts summarized below reflect forward sales volumes and average prices as of December 31, 2005:

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Annual Average for 2006-2007	Annual Average for 2006-2010
Net Baseload Capacity (MW)	5,294	5,340	5,340	5,340	5,340	5,317	5,331
Total Baseload Sales (MW) ⁽¹⁾	4,375	4,267	4,157	3,449	1,395	4,321	3,529
Percentage Baseload Capacity Sold							
Forward	83%	80%	78%	65%	26%	81%	66%
Weighted Average Forward Price (\$ per MWh) ⁽²⁾	\$ 44	\$ 39	\$ 41	\$ 47	\$ 51	\$ 41	\$ 43
Total Revenues Sold Forward (\$ in millions) ⁽²⁾	\$1,690	\$1,443	\$1,505	\$1,434	\$ 621	\$ 1,566	\$ 1,338

(1) Includes amounts under fixed price firm and non-firm power sales contracts and amounts financially hedged under natural gas swap contracts. The forward natural gas swap quantities are reflected in equivalent MW and are derived by first dividing the quantity of MMBtu of natural gas hedged by the forward market heat rate (in MMBtu/MWh, mid-point of the bid and offer as quoted by

brokers in the market of the relevant Electric Reliability Council of Texas zones as of December 30, 2005) to arrive at the equivalent MWh hedged which is then divided by 8,760 to arrive at MW hedged.

(2) Includes amounts under fixed price power sales contracts and amounts financially hedged under natural gas swap contracts.

Northeast

As of December 31, 2005, approximately 7,099 MW of NRG's generation capacity consisted of power plants in the Northeast region of the United States, including power plants within the control areas of the New York Independent System Operator, or NYISO, the ISO-New England, Inc., or ISO-NE, and the PJM Interconnection LLC., or PJM. Certain of these assets are located in transmission constrained areas, including approximately 1,394 MW of in-city New York City generation capacity and approximately 538 MW of southwest Connecticut generation capacity. As of December 31, 2005, NRG's generation assets in the Northeast region consisted of approximately 1,876 MW of baseload generation assets and approximately 5,223 MW of intermediate and peaking assets.

The following table summarizes Northeast's baseload forward power sales that extend beyond December 31, 2005. The amounts summarized below reflect forward sales volumes and average prices as of December 31, 2005:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Annual Average for 2006-2007</u>
Net Baseload Capacity (MW)	1,876	1,876	1,876	1,876	1,876	1,876
Total Baseload Sales (MW)	1,410	608	—	—	—	1,009
Percentage Baseload Capacity Sold Forward	75%	32%	—%	—%	—%	54%
Weighted Average Forward Price (\$ per MWh)	\$ 72	\$ 76	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 74
Total Revenues Sold Forward (\$ in millions)	\$ 885	\$ 406	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 645

South Central

As of December 31, 2005, NRG owned approximately 2,395 MW of generation capacity in the South Central region of the United States, making NRG the third largest generator in the Southeastern Electric Reliability Council/Entergy, or SERC-Entergy, region. NRG's generation assets in the South Central region consisted of approximately 1,489 MW of baseload generation assets and 906 MW of intermediate and peaking assets. NRG's primary asset is the Big Cajun II coal-fired plant near Baton Rouge, where NRG has approximately 1,489 MW of generation capacity.

The following table summarizes South Central's baseload forward power sales that extend beyond December 31, 2005. The amounts summarized below reflect forward sales volumes and average prices as of December 31, 2005:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Annual Average for 2006-2007</u>	<u>Annual Average for 2006-2010</u>
Net Baseload Capacity (MW)	1,489	1,489	1,489	1,489	1,489	1,489	1,489
Total Baseload Sales (MW) ⁽¹⁾	1,150	1,097	1,088	1,015	1,008	1,124	1,072
Percentage Baseload Capacity Sold Forward ..	77%	74%	73%	68%	68%	75%	72%
Weighted Average Forward Price (\$ per MWh)	\$ 33	\$ 32	\$ 33	\$ 34	\$ 36	\$ 33	\$ 34
Total Revenues Sold Forward (\$ in millions)	\$ 307	\$ 308	\$ 314	\$ 303	\$ 316	\$ 307	\$ 310

(1) Total Baseload Sales volumes for South Central are estimated volumes using historical load information.

Western

As of December 31, 2005, NRG's assets in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council, or WECC, the power market for the West Coast of the United States, included approximately 1,044 MW of generation capacity, most of it in NRG's 50% interest in WCP Holdings. NRG's generation assets in the Western region consisted of approximately 1,044 MW of intermediate and peaking assets. As part of NRG's strategy of optimizing NRG's asset base, NRG retired approximately 265 MW of additional gross generation capacity at the Long Beach generating facility on January 1, 2005. On December 27, 2005, NRG entered into a purchase and sale agreement to acquire Dynegy's 50% ownership interest in WCP Holdings to become the sole owner of power plants totaling approximately 1,800 MW of generation capacity in the Western region. On March 1, 2006, FERC issued an order authorizing the transaction, pursuant to section 203 of the Federal Power Act.

Australia

As of December 31, 2005, NRG owned approximately 1,305 MW of coal fired, primarily base load generation plants in the Australian National Electricity Market (NEM) — 700 MW in the South Australian region (NRG Flinders) and 605 MW in the Queensland Region (Gladstone). NRG Flinders is a merchant generation business that derives revenue from bidding its output into the NEM, by trading the plant as a portfolio, selling derivative hedges that are not plant specific and supplying minor retail sales via contract. 180 MW of gas fired power contracted from Osborne under a long-term PPA is also traded as part of the portfolio. A hedge book is maintained such that the short to medium term revenue is secured via hedge levels up to and in the order of 75-80% of the plant output. The current book is underpinned by a medium term hedge with a major South Australian retailer. The Gladstone assets are owned through an unincorporated joint venture with other investors and NRG does not have unilateral control over management of the assets. Gladstone Power Station is fully contracted through 2029 via a PPA and a capacity purchase agreement with Boyne Smelter Limited and Enertrade, respectively. Enertrade is a state owned company that trades the excess power in the NEM.

Other

As of December 31, 2005, NRG had net ownership in approximately 1,467 MW of additional generating capacity in the United States. In addition to these traditional power generation facilities, NRG also owns thermal and chilled water businesses that generate approximately 1,225 MW thermal equivalents, as well as resource recovery facilities, as described below. NRG also owns interests in power plants having a generation capacity of approximately 611 MW from a hydro plant in Brazil and coal plants adjacent to our coal mines in Germany.

Power Marketing and Commercial Operations

We seek to maximize profitability and manage cash flow volatility through the marketing, trading and sale of energy, capacity and ancillary services into spot, intermediate and long-term markets and through the active management and trading of emissions credits, fuel supplies and transportation-related services. Our principal objectives are the realization of the full market value of our asset base, including the capture of extrinsic value, the management and mitigation of commodity market risk, and the reduction of cash flow volatility over time.

We enter into power sales and hedging arrangements via a wide range of products and contracts, including power purchase agreements, fuel supply contracts, capacity auctions, natural gas swap agreements and other financial instruments. The power purchase agreements we enter into require us to deliver MWh of power to our counterparties. Natural gas swap agreements and other financial instruments hedge the price we will receive for power to be delivered in the future.

Before NRG acquired it, Texas Genco's capital structure permitted the grant of second priority liens on its assets as security for Texas Genco's obligations under certain long-term power sales agreements and related hedges. The Credit Agreement for NRG's senior secured debt and the Indentures for NRG's high yield notes, which became effective as of February 2, 2006, allow these arrangements to remain in place. In addition, the

new debt instruments also permit us to grant second priority liens on our other assets in the United States in order to secure obligations under power sales agreements and related hedges, within certain limits. The seven trading counterparties of Texas Genco who held second priority liens on Texas Genco's assets as of February 2, 2006, have been offered a second priority lien on NRG's other assets under the new structure, as additional collateral. Going forward, NRG anticipates that it will use the second lien structure to reduce the amount of cash collateral and letters of credit that it may otherwise be required to post from time to time to support its obligations under long term power sales and related hedges.

As of February 28, 2006, our net mark-to-market exposure on the hedges that are subject to the second lien structure was \$1.9 billion. The following table summarizes the utilization of the second lien structure as of December 31, 2005:

	12 Months Starting				
	Jan 1, 2006	Jan 1, 2007	Jan 1, 2008	Jan 1, 2009	Jan 1, 2010
Equivalent Net Sales secured by Second Lien Structure ⁽¹⁾					
In MWh.....	2,081	3,067	2,513	2,999	1,395
As a percentage of net baseload capacity in collateral pool as of February 2, 2006.....	30%	44%	36%	43%	20%

(1) Equivalent Net Sales include natural gas swaps converted using a weighted average heat rate by region.

Our largest customer under the second lien structure is J. Aron & Co., or J. Aron. The agreements with J. Aron extend through December 31, 2010, and account for approximately 26% of NRG's baseload generation in Texas and approximately 16% of our total baseload capacity, as measured in MWh through 2010.

In addition to the second lien described above, NRG also provides cash collateral and letters of credit to secure its obligations under hedge agreements and other power marketing contracts. As of December 31, 2005, the combined company, after giving effect to the Acquisition, had posted cash collateral (including letters of credit) to support commercial operations totaling \$1.2 billion. The following table summarizes, as of December 31, 2005, the combined company collateral posted by credit rating.

Credit Rating	Letters of Credit	Cash	Collateral Posted
		(In millions)	
A- and above	\$ 616	\$ 392	\$ 1,008
BBB- through BBB+	99	39	138
Below BBB-	7	4	11
Not Rated ⁽¹⁾	38	3	41
Total	<u>\$ 760</u>	<u>\$ 438</u>	<u>\$ 1,198</u>

(1) Not Rated indicates that no rating has been issued, or that an external rating agency (for example, Standard & Poor's or Moody's) does not rate a particular obligation as a matter of policy. The Not Rated row above consists of collateral posted to 17 counterparties, mainly gas producers.

Fuel Supply and Transportation

Our fuel requirements consist primarily of nuclear fuel and various forms of fossil fuel including oil, natural gas and coal (including lignite). We obtain our oil, natural gas and coal from multiple sources. Although fossil fuels are generally available for purchase, localized shortages, transportation availability and supplier financial stability issues can and do occur. The prices of oil, natural gas and coal are subject to macro- and micro-economic forces that can change dramatically in both the short-term and the long-term. We are largely hedged for our domestic coal consumption over the next few years.

We arrange for the purchase, transportation and delivery of coal for our coal plants via a range of coal purchase agreements, rail and barge transportation agreements and rail car lease arrangements. Coal consumption in 2006 for NRG is expected to be approximately 36 million tons, which would rank us as one of the top five coal purchasers in the United States. In addition, approximately 92% of our coal-fired generation benefits from multiple sourcing and transportation alternatives. The Company has approximately 6,100 privately leased or owned rail cars in its transportation fleet. In addition, we intend to enter into contracts for delivery of approximately 2,700 additional rail cars within the next two years of which approximately 2,200 will replace existing rail cars. NRG has entered into rail transportation agreements that provide for substantially all of its rail transportation requirements through 2009.

STP satisfies its fuel supply requirements by acquiring uranium concentrates and contracting for conversion of the uranium concentrates into uranium hexafluoride, for enrichment of uranium hexafluoride and for fabrication of nuclear fuel assemblies. Through our subsidiary Texas Genco, we are party to a number of contracts covering a portion of the fuel requirements of STP for uranium, conversion and enrichment services and fuel fabrication. The table below summarizes the nuclear fuel situation at STP through the major processes:

	Process	Supplier(s)	Procurement Status
Step 1	Yellow cake U(3)O(8). Conversion to uranium hexafluoride (UF(6))	Contracts with Cameco (Canada) and Cogema/Arriba (France) combine these steps.	100% covered through mid- 2011 and then 25% covered through 2021.
Step 2	Enrichment of U235 content . .	Urenco (Germany), Cogema/ Arriba (France), Louisiana Enrichment Services, or LES ⁽¹⁾ (joint venture between Westinghouse & Urenco).	Urenco and Cogema contracts cover through mid-2008. Contract with Urenco/LES through 2027/2028.
Step 3	Fabrication of fuel rods	Westinghouse.	Contract covers life of operating license.

(1) Enrichment by LES assumes successful completion of LES licensing and construction of facility in New Mexico.

Financial Information About Segments and Geographic Areas

For financial information on NRG's operations on a geographical and on a segment basis, see Item 15 — Note 21 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Dispositions of Non-Strategic Assets

We continued to market our interest in our remaining non-core assets during 2005. Since 2003, we sold or made arrangements to sell a number of consolidated businesses and equity investments in an effort to reduce our debt, improve liquidity and rationalize our investments. Dispositions completed during 2005 are summarized in the following chart:

Asset (Location)	Type	Segment	Closing Date	Proceeds	Gain/(Loss) on Disposition (In millions)	Debt Reduction
Enfield, England	Equity investment	Other International	4/1/2005	\$ 65	\$ 12	\$ —
Kendall, IL	Equity investment	Other North America	8/8/2005	5	4	—
Northbrook New York, NY and Northbrook Energy (Multi-state) . .	Discontinued operation	Other North America	8/11/2005	36	12	44
Bourbonnais, IL	Land sale	Other North America	8/31/2005	2	—	—
Kaufman, TX	Land sale	Other North America	12/22/2005	5	4	—
Total				<u>\$ 113</u>	<u>\$ 32</u>	<u>\$ 44</u>

Reorganization

We were formed in 1992 as the non-utility subsidiary of Northern States Power Company, or NSP, which was itself merged into New Century Energies, Inc. to form Xcel Energy, Inc., or Xcel Energy, in 2000. In 2002, a number of factors including the overall downturn in the power generation industry, triggered a series of credit rating downgrades which, in turn, precipitated a severe liquidity crisis at the Company. From May 14 to December 23, 2003, we and a number of our subsidiaries undertook a comprehensive reorganization and restructuring under chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. All NRG entities have emerged from chapter 11 as of December 31, 2005. As part of our reorganization, Xcel Energy relinquished its ownership interest in us, and we became an independent public company. We no longer have any material affiliation or relationship with Xcel Energy.

Fresh Start Reporting

As a result of our emergence from bankruptcy, we adopted Fresh Start Reporting, or Fresh Start. Under Fresh Start, our confirmed enterprise value was allocated to our assets and liabilities based on their respective fair values. See Item 7 — Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation — Reorganization and Emergence from Bankruptcy for additional information. 2004 was our first complete year following the adoption of Fresh Start.

Significant Customers

Reorganized NRG (excluding Texas Genco)

For the year ended December 31, 2005 we derived approximately 50.2% of total revenues for majority owned operations from two customers: NYISO accounted for 35.6% and ISO-NE accounted for 14.6%. We account for the revenues attributable to these customers as part of our Northeast segment.

For the year ended December 31, 2004, we derived approximately 37.8% of our total revenues from majority-owned operations from two customers. NYISO accounted for 28.6% and ISO New England accounted for 9.2%. We account for these revenues attributable to NYISO and ISO New England as part of our Northeast segment.

For the period December 6, 2003 through December 31, 2003, we derived approximately 39.4% of our total revenues from majority-owned operations from two customers: NYISO accounted for 26.8% and ISO New England accounted for 12.6%. Revenues from NYISO and ISO New England are included in our Northeast segment.

Predecessor Company

For the period from January 1, 2003 through December 5, 2003, sales to one customer, NYISO, accounted for 33.4% of our total revenues from majority-owned operations.

Seasonality and Price Volatility

Annual and quarterly operating results can be significantly affected by weather and energy commodity price volatility. Significant other events, such as the demand for natural gas, interruptions in fuel supply infrastructure and relative levels of hydroelectric capacity can increase seasonal fuel and power price volatility. We derive a majority of our annual revenues in the months of May through September, when demand for electricity is the highest in our North American markets. Further, power price volatility is generally higher in the summer months due to the effect of temperature variations. Our second most important season is winter when volatility and price spikes in underlying fuel prices have tended to drive seasonal electricity prices. Issues related to seasonality and price volatility are fairly uniform across our business segments.

Sources and Availability of Raw Materials

Our raw material requirements primarily include various forms of fossil fuel, including oil, natural gas and coal. We obtain our oil, natural gas and coal from multiple suppliers and transportation sources and availability is generally not an issue, although localized shortages, transportation availability and supplier financial stability issues can and do occur. The prices of oil, natural gas and coal are subject to macro- and micro-economic forces that can change dramatically in both the short-term and the long-term. For example, the price of natural gas was particularly volatile in late 2005 due to infrastructure damage caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Additionally, throughout 2005, oil prices were extremely volatile due to hurricane damage, geo-political uncertainty in the Middle East and increased global oil demand. Issues related to the sources and availability of raw materials are fairly uniform across our business segments.

Plant Operations

We provide overall support services to our generation facilities to ensure that high-level performance goals are developed, best practices are shared and resources are appropriately balanced and allocated to get the best results for us. Performance goals are set for equivalent forced outage rates, or EFOR, availability, procurement costs, operating costs and safety.

The functional areas included in this organization include safety and security, engineering, project management, construction services, and purchasing. These services also include overall facilities management, operations strategic planning and the development and dissemination of consistent policies and practices relating to plant operations.

Environmental Controls

Between 2002 and 2007, NRG has made, and will continue to make, investments that we believe will total approximately \$125 million in its coal-fired plants in the Northeast region of the United States so that they can burn low sulfur coal from the Powder River Basin in Wyoming and Montana. These improvements have not only led to significant reductions in sulfur dioxide emissions, but have also improved the operational flexibility and financial performance of these plants. During the same period, NRG expects to invest approximately \$32 million in its coal plants in the South Central region for NO_x burners and over fired air, which have led to reductions in NO_x. A significant portion of this investment may be recovered from NRG's cooperative customers. Texas Genco and its predecessors invested over \$700 million in NO_x reduction initiatives since 1999 to ensure both regulatory compliance and continued performance, and we estimate we will invest approximately \$70 million in additional capital expenditures in these assets to meet pollution control requirements from 2006 to 2014.

The following table summarizes the key existing and current forecasted plans as to environmental controls on our coal-fired units. Also see our discussion on Environmental Matters further within this Business Section:

Units	SO ₂		NO _x		Hg		Particulate	
	Control Equipment	Install Date	Control Equipment	Install Date	Control Equipment	Install Date	Control Equipment	Install Date
Huntley 67	Wet FGD ⁽¹⁾	2013	SNCR	2010	FF-ACI ⁽²⁾	2011	ESP	1973
Huntley 68	Wet FGD ⁽¹⁾	2013	SNCR	2011	FF-ACI ⁽²⁾	2009	ESP	1973
Dunkirk 1	None	—	SNCR	2010	FF-ACI ⁽²⁾	2010	ESP	1974
Dunkirk 2	None	—	SNCR	2011	FF-ACI ⁽²⁾	2011	ESP	1974
Dunkirk 3	None	—	SNCR	2010	FF-ACI ⁽²⁾	2011	ESP	1975
Dunkirk 4	None	—	SNCR	2011	FF-ACI ⁽²⁾	2010	ESP	1976
Indian River 1 ..	In-Duct Scrubber	2012	SNCR & LNB ⁽³⁾	2008	Co-Benefit of Scrubbers	2012	ESP (IR1-3)	1976
Indian River 2 ..	In-Duct Scrubber	2013	SNCR & LNB ⁽³⁾	2008	Co-Benefit of Scrubbers	2013	ESP (IR1-3)	1976
Indian River 3 ..	In-Duct Scrubber	2012	LNB ⁽³⁾ & SNCR	2008	Co-Benefit of Scrubbers	2012	ESP (IR1-3)	1980
Indian River 4 ..	Dry Scrubber	2011	LNB ⁽³⁾ & SNCR upgrade	2008	Co-Benefit of Scrubbers	2011	ESP (IR1-3)	1980
Big Cajun II 1 ..	Dry Scrubber	2011	None	—	ACI ⁽²⁾	2012	ESP	1981
Big Cajun II 2 ..	Dry Scrubber	2010	SCR ⁽⁴⁾	2010	ACI ⁽²⁾	2011	ESP	1981
Big Cajun II 3 ..	Dry Scrubber	2013	SCR ⁽⁴⁾	2013	ACI ⁽²⁾	2014	ESP	1983
Limestone	FGD	1986-87	LNB/OFA ⁽³⁾	2000-01	Co-Benefit of Scrubbers	—	ESP	1986-87
WA Parish 5,6,7	None	NA	SCR & LNB/OFA ⁽³⁾	2000-04	None	—	FF	1988
WA Parish 8 ...	FGD	1982	SCR & LNB/OFA ⁽³⁾	2000-04	Co-Benefit of Scrubber	—	FF	1988

(1) FGD stands for Flue Gas Desulfurization

(2) FF-ACI stands for Fabric Filter with Activated Carbon Injection

(3) LNB/OFA stands for Low NO_x Burner with Over Fire Air

(4) SCR stands for Selective Catalytic Reduction

Performance Improvement and Cost and Process Control Initiatives

In May 2005, NRG announced FORNRG, a comprehensive cost and margin improvement program, consisting of a large number of asset, portfolio and headquarters-specific targeted initiatives. This effort has been branded as “FORNRG,” or Focus on ROIC@NRG. Projects are focused on improving plant performance, reducing purchasing and other costs and streamlining processes. A large number of initiatives are currently underway in plant operations including forced outage reductions and heat rate improvements at NRG’s major base load facilities. Additional initiatives are underway at our regional and headquarter offices as well. The ultimate objective is to produce \$100 million of recurring benefits by 2008.

There have been a number of parallel improvement programs underway at Texas Genco, which have focused on streamlining processes, right sizing the organization and running efficient operations. As part of the integration of Texas Genco into NRG, we are comparing best practices and results between NRG and Texas Genco, and we are combining purchasing programs and incorporating Texas Genco processes under the FORNRG program.

Regional Business Descriptions

The combined company is organized into business units as described below, with each of our core regions operating as a separate unit.

TEXAS (ERCOT)

NRG's largest business unit is located in the Texas (ERCOT) region of the United States and is comprised of investments in generation facilities located in the physical control areas of the ERCOT-ISO. These assets were acquired on February 2, 2006 as part of the Texas Genco Acquisition.

Operating Strategy

Our business in the ERCOT region is comprised of two fundamental sets of assets: a regionally diverse set of three large solid-fuel baseload plants and a set of generally older gas-fired plants located in and around Houston. Our operating strategy to maximize value and opportunity across these two sets of assets is four pronged: (1) to ensure the availability of the baseload plants to fulfill their commercial obligations under long-term forward sales contracts already in place, (2) to manage the gas assets for profitability while ensuring the reliability and flexibility of power supply to the Houston market, (3) to take advantage of our skill sets and market/regulatory knowledge to grow the business through incremental capacity uprates and brownfield development of solid-fuel baseload units and (4) to play a leading role in the development of the ERCOT market by active membership and participation in market and regulatory issues.

It is our strategy to sell forward up to 80% of our solid-fuel baseload capacity in ERCOT under long-term contracts. Accordingly, our primary focus will be to keep these solid-fuel baseload units running efficiently. The generation performance by fuel type for the recent three-year period is as shown below:

	Net Generation (MWh)		
	2005	2004	2003
	(In thousands)		
Coal	31,299	31,222	29,754
Gas	6,806	7,701	10,701
Nuclear	<u>6,412</u>	<u>6,580</u>	<u>4,843</u>
Total	<u>44,517</u>	<u>45,503</u>	<u>45,298</u>

On the gas-fired asset side, we will continue a dual path of contracting forward a significant portion of gas-fired capacity one to two years out while holding a portion for back-up in case there is an operational issue with one of the baseload units. For the gas-fired capacity sold forward, we offer a range of products including "virtual units" where the customer has the right to dispatch capacity as the customer needs in order to meet their physical load requirements. For the gas-fired capacity that we will continue to sell commercially into the market, we will focus on making this capacity available to the market whenever it is economic to run.

Texas Genco's growth efforts to date have been focused on adding incremental capacity to existing units — such as the 99 MW uprate at Limestone 2 in the spring of 2006. We will continue this effort with exploration of some additional potential opportunities at W. A. Parish as well as some scheduled uprates at STP. We have also launched a broader brownfield development initiative where we will evaluate opportunities to take advantage of our current power plant sites and other land we own as well as our deep market, regulatory, and environmental knowledge to consider the development of new solid fuel baseload units.

Facilities

The following table describes Texas Genco's electric power generation plants and generation capacity as of December 31, 2005:

Generation Sites	Location	% Owned	Net Generation Capacity (MW) ⁽¹⁾	Primary Fuel Type ⁽²⁾
Solid Fuel Baseload Units:				
W. A. Parish ⁽³⁾	Thompsons, TX	100%	2,463	Low Sulfur Coal Lignite/Low Sulfur
Limestone	Jewett, TX	100%	1,614	Coal
South Texas Project ⁽⁴⁾	Bay City, TX	44%	1,101	Nuclear
Total Solid Fuel Baseload			5,178	
Operating Natural Gas-Fired Units:				
Cedar Bayou	Chambers County, TX	100%	1,498	Natural Gas
T. H. Wharton	Houston, TX	100%	1,025	Natural Gas
W. A. Parish (Natural gas) ⁽³⁾	Thompsons, TX	100%	1,191	Natural Gas
S. R. Bertron	Deer Park, TX	100%	844	Natural Gas
Greens Bayou	Houston, TX	100%	760	Natural Gas
San Jacinto	LaPorte, TX	100%	162	Natural Gas
Total Operating Natural Gas-Fired			5,480	
Total Texas (ERCOT) Region			10,658	

(1) Actual capacity can vary depending on factors including weather conditions, operational conditions and other factors. ERCOT requires periodic demonstration of capability, and the capacity may vary individually and in the aggregate from time to time. Excludes 3,378 MW of inactive capacity available for redevelopment of which 174 MW of available capacity was sold on November 14, 2005. An additional 461 MW was moved to inactive status as of December 31, 2005.

(2) Low sulfur coal is coal mined from the Powder River Basin, a coal-producing area in northeastern Wyoming and southeastern Montana, which coal has low sulfur content relative to most coal from the eastern United States.

(3) W. A. Parish has nine units, four of which are baseload coal-fired units and five of which are natural gas-fired units.

(4) Generation capacity figure consists of our 44.0% undivided interest in the two units of STP.

W.A. Parish. The W. A. Parish plant is one of the largest fossil-fired plants in the United States based on total MWs of generation capacity. The plant is located in the Houston ERCOT zone and was recognized by Platts' Power Magazine as one of the top power plants in the United States for 2004. This plant's power generation units include four coal-fired steam generation units with an aggregate generation capacity of 2,463 MW as of December 31, 2005. Two of these units are 649 MW steam units that were placed in commercial service in December 1977 and December 1978, respectively. The other two units are 555 MW and 610 MW steam units that were placed in commercial service in June 1980 and December 1982, respectively. All four units are serviced by two competing railroads that diversify Texas Genco's coal transportation options at competitive prices. Texas Genco invested approximately \$430 million in nitrogen oxide, or NO_x, control systems from 1999 to 2004. Each of the four coal-fired units has low- NO_x burners and selective catalytic reduction, or SCR, installed to reduce NO_x emissions. In addition, W. A. Parish Unit 8 has a scrubber installed to reduce sulfur dioxide, or SO₂, emissions. Plant efficiency projects to be completed by year end 2007 are expected to uprate the net generation capacity of W.A. Parish by 31 MW.

Limestone. The Limestone plant is a lignite and coal-fired plant located approximately 140 miles northwest of Houston. This plant includes two steam generation units with an aggregate generation capacity of 1,614 MW as of December 31, 2005. The first unit is an 836 MW steam unit that was placed in commercial service in December 1985. The second unit is a 778 MW steam unit that was placed in commercial service in December 1986. Limestone primarily burns lignite from an on-site mine, but also burns low sulfur coal and petroleum coke. This serves to lower average fuel costs by eliminating fuel transportation costs, which can

represent up to two-thirds of delivered fuel costs for plants of this type. We own the mining equipment and facilities and a portion of the lignite reserves located at the mine. Mining operations are conducted by Texas Westmoreland Coal Co., a single purpose, wholly-owned subsidiary of Westmoreland Coal Company and the owner of a substantial portion of the remaining lignite reserves. Both units have installed low- NO_x burners to reduce NO_x emissions and scrubbers to reduce SO_2 emissions. In the second quarter of 2006 we plan to replace the high pressure and intermediate pressure turbines at Limestone Unit 2, rewinding the generator and replacing the main generator step-up transformer. This work is expected to cost approximately \$33 million and to improve generation capacity by 99 MW.

South Texas Project Electric Generating Station. STP is one of the newest and largest nuclear-powered generation plants in the United States based on total megawatts of generation capacity. This plant is located approximately 90 miles south of downtown Houston, near Bay City, Texas and consists of two generation units each representing approximately 1,250 MW of generation capacity. Plant efficiency projects to be completed by 2007 are expected to uprate the net generation capacity of STP by 73 MW (32 MW net to NRG). STP's two generation units commenced operations in August 1988 and June 1989, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2004, STP had a forced outage rate of 0.4% and a 97% capacity factor.

STP is currently owned as a tenancy in common among NRG and two other co-owners. NRG owns a 44.0% (1,101 MW) interest in STP, the City of San Antonio owns a 40% interest and the City of Austin owns the remaining 16% interest. Each co-owner retains its undivided ownership interest in the two nuclear-fueled generation units and the electrical output from those units. In the event any owner desires to sell all or part of its ownership interest in STP, such sale is subject to a right of first refusal in favor of the other owners. Except for certain plant shutdown and decommissioning costs and NRC licensing liabilities, NRG is severally liable, but not jointly liable, for the expenses and liabilities of STP. The original co-owners of STP organized South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company, or STPNOC, to operate and maintain STP. STPNOC is managed by a board of directors composed of one director appointed by each of the three co-owners, along with the chief executive officer of STPNOC. STPNOC is the NRC-licensed operator of STP. No single owner controls STPNOC and all decisions must be approved by two or more owners who collectively control more than 60% of the interests. Due to the fact that NRG owns 44% of STP, NRG effectively holds a veto right.

In connection with the acquisition by Texas Genco of 13.2% of STP from AEP, Texas Genco, LP agreed with AEP that, for a period of ten years from May 19, 2005, Texas Genco, LP would maintain a minimum partners' equity, determined in accordance with GAAP, of \$300 million. This obligation remains in effect as an obligation of NRG.

The two STP generation units operate under licenses granted by the NRC that expire in 2027 and 2028, respectively. These licenses may be extended for additional 20-year terms if the project satisfies NRC requirements. Adequate provisions exist for long-term on-site storage of spent nuclear fuel throughout the remaining life of the existing STP plant licenses.

Market Framework

The ERCOT market is one of the nation's largest and fastest growing power markets. It represents approximately 85% of the demand for power in Texas and covers the whole state, with the exception of the far west (El Paso), a large part of the Texas Panhandle and two small areas in the eastern part of the state. From 1994 through 2004, peak hourly demand in the ERCOT market grew at a compound annual rate of 3.0%, compared to a compound annual rate of growth of 2.1% in the United States for the same period. For 2004, hourly demand ranged from a low of 20,276 MW to a high of 58,506 MW. ERCOT has limited interconnections — currently limited to 856 MW of generation capacity — to other markets in the United States, and wholesale transactions within ERCOT are not subject to regulation by FERC. Any wholesale producer of power that qualifies as a power generation company under the Texas electric restructuring law and that can access the ERCOT electric power grid is allowed to sell power in the ERCOT market at unregulated rates.

The ERCOT market has experienced significant construction of new generation plants in recent years, with over 20,000 MW of mostly natural gas-fired combined cycle generation capacity added to the market

since 2000. As of December 31, 2005, aggregate net generation capacity of approximately 81,000 MW existed in the ERCOT market, of which 73% was natural gas-fired. Approximately 20,000 MW, or 25%, was lower marginal cost generation capacity such as coal, lignite and nuclear plants. NRG's coal and nuclear fuel baseload plants represent approximately 5,178 MW, or 26%, of the total solid fuel baseload net generation capacity in the ERCOT market. ERCOT has established a target equilibrium reserve margin level of approximately 12.5%; the reserve margin as of the latest known information on December 31, 2005 was 16.9%. Construction of new generation plants has been minimal since 2004, and we expect that reserve margins will decrease as demand gradually grows and surpasses recently added supply.

In the ERCOT market, buyers and sellers enter into bilateral wholesale capacity, power and ancillary services contracts or may participate in the centralized ancillary services market, including balancing energy, which ERCOT administers. In the ERCOT market, a 2004 report by Henwood found that natural gas-fired plants have set the market price of wholesale power more than 90% of the time. As a result, NRG's lower marginal cost solid-fuel baseload plants are expected to generate power nearly 100% of the time they are available.

The ERCOT market is divided into five regions or congestion zones (Northeast, North, Houston, South and West), which reflect transmission constraints that limit the amount of power that can flow across zones. NRG's W. A. Parish plant and all its natural gas-fired plants are located in the Houston zone, NRG's Limestone plant is located in the North zone and STP is located in the South zone.

The ERCOT market operates under the reliability standards set by the North American Electric Reliability Council, or NERC. The PUCT has primary jurisdiction over the ERCOT market to ensure the adequacy and reliability of power supply across Texas' main interconnected power transmission grid. ERCOT is responsible for facilitating reliable operations of the bulk electric power supply system in the ERCOT market. Its responsibilities include ensuring that power production and delivery are accurately accounted for among the generation resources and wholesale buyers and sellers. Unlike power pools with independent operators in other regions of the country, the ERCOT market is not a centrally dispatched power pool and ERCOT does not procure power on behalf of its members other than to maintain the reliable operations of the transmission system. The ERCOT-ISO also serves as agent for procuring ancillary services for those who elect not to provide their own ancillary services.

Power sales or purchases from one location to another may be constrained by the power transfer capability between locations. Under current ERCOT protocol, the commercially significant constraints and the transfer capabilities along these paths are reassessed every year and congestion costs are directly assigned to those parties causing the congestion. This has the potential to increase power generators' exposure to the congestion costs associated with transferring power between zones.

The PUCT has adopted a rule directing the ERCOT-ISO to develop and implement a wholesale market design that, among other things, includes a day ahead energy market and replaces the existing zonal wholesale market design with a nodal market design that is based on locational marginal prices for power. See "— Regulatory Developments — Regional Businesses — Market Developments — Texas (ERCOT) Region." One of the stated purposes of the proposed market restructuring is to reduce local (intra-zonal) transmission congestion costs. The market redesign project is expected to take effect in 2009. We expect that implementation of any new market design will require modifications to our procedures and systems. Although we do not expect the combined company's competitive position in the ERCOT market will be materially adversely affected by the proposed market restructuring, we do not know for certain how the planned market restructuring will affect our revenues, and some of the combined company's plants in ERCOT may experience adverse pricing effects due to their location on the transmission grid.

PUCT Mandated Auctions

PUCT regulation required firm entitlements to 15% of NRG's operating installed generation capacity to be sold at auction through December 31, 2006, at opening bid prices well below NRG's cost for 2006. On December 7, 2005, Texas Genco filed an application with the PUCT requesting the PUCT to determine that we were no longer required to conduct mandated auctions because 40% or more of the electric power

consumed by the residential and small commercial customers within the CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC certificated service area before the onset of customer choice is now provided by nonaffiliated retail electric providers. On February 6, 2006, the Staff of the PUCT reported that ERCOT had performed the analysis and calculations necessary to demonstrate that we have satisfied the 40% threshold. The Staff recommended that the petition be granted and that we be released from any further capacity auction requirements. The administrative law judge issued her proposal for decision, and a decision by the PUCT is expected in March.

NORTHEAST REGION

NRG's second largest asset base is located in the Northeast region of the United States and is comprised of investments in generation facilities primarily located in the physical control areas of NYISO, the ISO-NE and PJM.

Operating Strategy

The Northeast region strategy is focused on optimizing the value of our broad and varied generation portfolio in three interconnected and actively traded competitive markets: the NYISO, the ISO-NE and the PJM. In our Northeast markets, load serving entities generally lack their own generation capacity, much of the generation base is aging, and the current ownership of the generation is highly disaggregated. Thus, commodity prices are more volatile on an as-delivered basis than in other regions due to the distances and occasional physical constraints impacting delivery of fuels into the region. In this environment, we seek both to enhance our ability to be the low cost wholesale generator capable of delivering wholesale power to load centers within the region from multiple locations using multiple fuel sources, and to be properly compensated for delivering such wholesale power and related services. The generation performance by fuel type for the recent three-year period is as shown below:

	Net Generation (MWh)		
	2005	2004	2003
	(In thousands)		
Coal	10,369	10,664	9,783
Oil.....	3,158	1,381	1,471
Gas	<u>1,724</u>	<u>1,160</u>	<u>1,172</u>
Total	<u>15,251</u>	<u>13,205</u>	<u>12,426</u>

Several of our Connecticut assets are located in transmission-constrained load pockets and have been designated as required to be available to ISO-NE to ensure reliability. These assets are subject to reliability must-run, or RMR, agreements, which are contracts under which we agree to maintain our facilities to be available to run when needed, and are paid for providing these capability services based on our costs. We are focused on capturing the locational value of our plants that are located in or near load centers and inside chronic transmission constraints, in order to improve the economic rationale for repowering of those sites. We do this principally through the advocacy of capacity market reforms, e.g., locational installed capacity markets that generate adequate returns for wholesale power generators.

We continue to evaluate opportunities to redevelop our existing sites as well as opportunities for acquisitions in the Northeast region. The redevelopment opportunities for our existing sites include expanding sites with high efficiency, intermediate and peaking units, converting coal or oil sites to cleaner technologies, redeveloping existing sites with projects using IGCC technology, as well as reconfiguring the existing sites to burn renewable fuel sources. Redevelopment opportunities have been identified for each site in the Northeast and we have established priorities based on expected financial returns and probability of success. To facilitate redevelopment opportunities, we are pursuing contractual arrangements to support significant redevelopment capital expenditures via direct negotiations with relevant agencies and potential power purchasers as well as through request for proposal processes. We also continue to pursue contractual arrangements to support the

construction costs of potential new facilities and acquisition opportunities through public auction processes as well as by initiating discussions with various parties on potential opportunities.

Facilities

As of December 31, 2005, NRG's facilities in the Northeast region consisted of approximately 7,099 MW of generation capacity, including assets located in transmission constrained areas, such as in-city New York City (1,394 MW) and southwest Connecticut (538 MW). The Northeast region power generation assets are summarized in the table below:

<u>Plant</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>% Owned</u>	<u>Net Generation Capacity (MW)</u>	<u>Primary Fuel Type</u>
Oswego	Oswego, NY	100.0%	1,634	Oil
Arthur Kill	Staten Island, NY	100.0%	841	Natural Gas
Middletown	Middletown, CT	100.0%	770	Oil
Indian River	Millsboro, DE	100.0%	737	Coal
Astoria Gas Turbines	Queens, NY	100.0%	553	Natural Gas
Dunkirk	Dunkirk, NY	100.0%	522	Coal
Huntley	Tonawanda, NY	100.0%	552	Coal
Montville	Uncasville, CT	100.0%	497	Oil
Norwalk Harbor	So. Norwalk, CT	100.0%	342	Oil
Devon	Milford, CT	100.0%	124	Natural Gas
Vienna	Vienna, MD	100.0%	170	Oil
Somerset Power	Somerset, MA	100.0%	127	Coal
Connecticut Remote Turbines	Various locations in CT	100.0%	104	Oil
Conemaugh	New Florence, PA	3.7%	64	Coal
Keystone	Shelocta, PA	3.7%	63	Coal
Total Northeast Region			<u>7,099</u>	

* Excludes 382 MW of inactive capacity.

The following are descriptions of our most significant revenue generating plants in the Northeast region:

Arthur Kill. NRG's Arthur Kill plant is a natural gas-fired power plant consisting of three units and is located on the west side of Staten Island, New York. The plant produces an aggregate generation capacity of 841 MW from two intermediate load units (Units 20 and 30) and one peak load unit (Unit GT-1). Unit 20 produces an aggregate generation capacity of 335 MW and was installed in 1959. Unit 30 produces an aggregate generation capacity of 491 MW and was installed in 1969, and both Units were converted from steam engines in the early 1990s. We may need to upgrade the plant in the future to comply with environmental regulations. If upgrades are needed it could cost several million dollars.

Astoria Gas Turbines. Adjacent to LaGuardia airport in Queens, New York, Astoria provides power to the local New York City load pockets. The facility has an aggregate generation capacity of 553 MW from 19 operational combustion turbine engines. The turbine engines are peak gas-fired and/or oil-fired installed in the early 1970s. The engines are classified into three classes, which are then grouped into ten Astoria Gas Turbine units. These units consist of Buildings 2, 3 and 4, which have a total net generation capacity of 431 MW and will be retired in 2022. Units 5, 7 and 8, which are Class 2 turbine engines, have a net generation capacity totaling approximately 42 MW; and will be retired in 2015. Units 10, 11, 12 and 13, which are Class 3 turbine engines have a total net generation capacity of 80 MW, will be retired in 2015 as well.

Dunkirk. NRG's Dunkirk plant is a coal-fired plant located on Lake Erie in Dunkirk, New York. This plant produces an aggregate generation capacity of 522 MW from four baseload units. Units 1 and 2 produce up to 81 MW each and were put in service in 1950. Units 3 and 4 produce approximately 180 MW each and were put in service in 1959 and 1960, respectively. The plant is currently implementing changes to switch from eastern bituminous coal to low sulfur PRB coal in order to comply with various federal and state emissions standards, as well as the NYSDEC settlement referred to in the following paragraph. The conversion will be completed for all units by Spring 2006.

Huntley. NRG's Huntley plant is a coal-fired plant consisting of six units and is located in Tonawanda, New York, approximately three miles north of Buffalo. The plant has a generation capacity of 552 MW from two intermediate load units (Units 65 and 66) and two baseload units (Units 67 and 68). Units 67 and 68 generate a net capacity of approximately 190 MW each and were put in service in 1957 and 1958, respectively. Units 65 and 66 generate a net capacity of 86 MW each and were put in service between 1942 and 1954. Units 63 and 64 are currently inactive. At the end of 2005, NRG gave notice to the New York Public Service Commission, or NYPSC, of its intent to retire Units 63 and 64 in early 2006, subject to NYPSC approval. As part of a settlement reached with the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, or NYSDEC, in January 2005, NRG will reduce NO_x and SO_x emissions from its Huntley and Dunkirk plants through 2013 in the aggregate by over 80% and 86%, respectively. A portion of these reductions has been achieved through the switch to PRB coal and related projects completed at the plant that have already been expended or committed to.

Market Framework

Although each of the three northeast ISOs and their respective energy markets are functionally, administratively and operationally independent, they all follow, to a certain extent, similar market designs. Each ISO dispatches power plants to meet system energy and reliability needs, and settles physical power deliveries at locational marginal prices, or LMPs, which reflect the value of energy at a specific location at the specific time it is delivered. This value is determined by an ISO-administered auction process, which evaluates and selects the least costly supplier offers or bids to create a reliable and least-cost dispatch. The ISO-sponsored LMP energy markets consist of two separate and characteristically distinct settlement time frames. The first is a security-constrained, financially firm, day-ahead unit commitment market. The second is a security-constrained, financially settled, real-time dispatch and balancing market. Prices paid in these LMP energy markets, however, are affected by, among other things, market mitigation measures which can result in lower prices associated with certain generating units that are mitigated because they are deemed to have locational market power, and by \$1000/MWh energy market price caps that are in place in all three northeast ISOs.

In addition to energy delivery, the ISOs manage secondary markets for installed capacity, ancillary services and financial transmission rights. All of the three northeastern ISOs have realized, however, that they are not capable of supporting needed investment in new generation without well designed capacity and ancillary service markets. NYISO's capacity market was the first to receive approval of its proposed demand curve and locational capacity reforms (which are intended to better reflect locational values of capacity resources). ISO-NE and PJM have both proposed their respective versions of reformed capacity markets, namely, a locational installed capacity market, or LICAP in ISO-NE, and a reliability pricing model, or RPM proposal in PJM. These proposals are currently pending before FERC. Also see further discussion in Item 15 — Note 26 Regulatory Matters.

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

As of December 31, 2005, NRG owned approximately 2,395 MW of generating capacity in the South Central region of the United States. The region lacks an ISO and, therefore, remains a bilateral market, making it less transparent than a region with an ISO-administered energy market using large scale economic dispatch (such as the Northeast markets discussed above). Our plants in the South Central region operate as their own control area, the South Central control area. As a result, the South Central control area is capable of providing control area services, in addition to wholesale power, that enables NRG to provide full requirement

services to load serving utilities, thus making the South Central control area a competitive alternative to the integrated utilities operating in the region.

Operating Strategy

Our South Central region seeks to capitalize on two factors: our position as a significant coal-fired generator in a market which is highly dependent on natural gas for power generation purposes; and our long-term contractual and historical service relationship with 11 rural cooperatives around Louisiana. We are working with our cooperative customers to improve contract administration, to expand their and our customer base on terms advantageous to all parties and, in some cases, to modify the terms of our contracts with respect to our current or new customers.

The generation performance by fuel type for the recent three-year period is as shown below:

	Net Generation (MWh)		
	2005	2004	2003
	(In thousands)		
Coal	10,103	10,469	10,318
Gas	14	2	27
Total	<u>10,117</u>	<u>10,471</u>	<u>10,345</u>

As part of our strategy, we are examining all of our sites in the South Central region for possible brownfield development. In particular, we continue the development of the new 675 MW Big Cajun II Unit 4 super critical coal-fired generating unit. On August 22, 2005, NRG received the Title V Air Permit from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. On October 14, 2005, Washington Group International was selected as the owner's engineer. We continue to aggressively pursue equity partners and off-takers for the output of the unit. We continue to look for opportunities to acquire assets that will enhance our portfolio and long-term strategic goals.

Facilities

NRG's generating assets in the South Central region consist primarily of its net ownership of power generation facilities in New Roads, Louisiana, which we refer to as Big Cajun II, and also includes the Sterlington, Bayou Cove and Big Cajun peaking facilities. NRG's power generation assets in the South Central region as of December 31, 2005 are summarized in the table below:

Plant	Location	% Owned	Net Generating Capacity (MW)	Primary Fuel Type
Big Cajun II ⁽¹⁾	New Roads, LA	86.0%	1,489	Coal
Bayou Cove	Jennings, LA	100.0%	300	Natural Gas
Big Cajun I — (Peakers) Units 3 & 4	New Roads, LA	100.0%	210	Natural Gas
Big Cajun I — Units 1 & 2	New Roads, LA	100.0%	220	Natural Gas/Oil
Sterlington	Sterlington, LA	100.0%	176	Natural Gas
Total South Central			<u>2,395</u>	

(1) NRG owns 100% of Units 1 & 2; 58% of Unit 3

Big Cajun II. Our most significant revenue generating plant in the South Central region is the Big Cajun II facility. Big Cajun II plant is a coal-fired, sub-critical heat baseload plant located along the banks of the Mississippi River, upstream from Baton Rouge. This plant includes three coal-fired generation units (Units 1, 2 and 3) with an aggregate generation capacity of 1,730 MW as of December 31, 2005, and generation capacity per unit of 580 MW, 575 MW and 575 MW, respectively. The plant uses coal supplied by the Powder River Basin and was commissioned between 1981 and 1983. NRG owns 100% of Units 1 and 2 and 58% of Unit 3 for an aggregate owned capacity of 1,489 MW (86.0%) of the plant. All three units have

been upgraded with low NOx burners and over fire air. The Unit 1 generator has recently been rewound and was optimized with a modern turbine/exciter control system. Units 2 and 3 are planned for generator rewinds, turbine/exciter control replacements and additional neural net systems in future years. These efficiency improvements are expected to cost approximately \$30 million.

Market Framework

NRG's assets in the South Central region are located within the franchise territories of vertically integrated utilities, primarily Entergy Corp., or Entergy. Entergy performs the scheduling, reserve and reliability functions that are administered by the ISOs in certain other regions of the United States and Canada. Although the reliability functions performed are essentially the same, the primary differences between these markets lie in the physical delivery and price discovery mechanisms. In the South Central region, all power sales and purchases are consummated bilaterally between individual counterparties. Transacting counterparties are required to reserve and purchase transmission services from the relevant transmission owners at their FERC-approved tariff rates. Included with these transmission services are the reserve and ancillary costs.

As of December 31, 2005, NRG had long-term all-requirements contracts with 11 Louisiana distribution cooperatives. The agreements are standardized into three types, Forms A, B and C and have the terms, contract loads and customers as shown in the table below:

	<u>Expiration</u>	<u>Estimated Contract Load</u>	<u>Customers</u>
Form A	March 2025	42%	6
Form B	March 2025	3%	1
Form C	March 2009-2014	42%	4

NRG also has long-term contracts with the Municipal Agency of Mississippi, South Mississippi Electric Power Association, and Southwestern Electric Power Company, which collectively comprise an additional 13% of contract load.

At peak demand periods, NRG's Big Cajun II assets are insufficient to serve the requirements of the customers under these contracts, and at such times, NRG typically purchases power from other power producers in the region, frequently at higher prices than can be recovered under our contracts. As the loads of our customers grow, we can expect this imbalance to worsen, unless we are successful in renegotiating the terms of our long-term contracts.

We are currently in negotiations with these customers to achieve contractual amendments that limit incremental load growth at contract rates for large industrial and municipal loads. To date, we have been successful in achieving such amendments with two of the eleven cooperative contracts.

As a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in August and September 2005, NRG recognized a loss of approximately \$1.3 million for damaged assets. Four of the South Central region's 11 cooperative customers suffered extensive losses to their distribution systems, and the region suffered a drop in contract sales during the ensuing power outages. By year-end, loads have largely returned to normal for three of the four hard-hit cooperatives, while the fourth cooperative continues to face challenges in rebuilding. The load loss and the transmission constraints had offsetting impacts on the South Central region's margins resulting in gross margins that were \$4 million below expectations. In addition, NRG created a reserve for a receivable from Entergy New Orleans of \$1.9 million because of its hurricane-related bankruptcy.

WESTERN REGION

As of December 31, 2005, NRG owned approximately 1,044 MW of generating capacity in the Western region of the United States (California), of which approximately 904 MW is through a 50% interest in WCP Holdings. On December 27, 2005, NRG entered into a purchase and sale agreement to acquire Dynegy's 50% ownership interest in West Coast Power to become the sole owner of power plants totaling approximately

1,800 MW of generation capacity in the Western region. The transaction, which is subject to regulatory approval, is expected to close in the first quarter of 2006.

Operating Strategy

Our Western region strategy is focused on maximizing the cash flow and value associated with our generating plants while protecting and potentially realizing the commercial value of the underlying real estate in case our following initiatives do not generate value. There are three principal components to this strategy. First, we are focused on influencing market reforms in California to provide an energy market environment where our capacity can be offered into centrally administered competitive auctions, such as we see in the Northeast, and also provide for the negotiation of bilateral transactions for both energy and capacity. Second, we are preparing our sites for the construction of new capacity to meet increasing local area requirements. At El Segundo, NRG has a California Energy Commission, or CEC, permit to construct a new combined cycle plant to replace the retired units at the site. At the Long Beach site, NRG has land available to construct new peaking capacity. NRG is developing plans for site remediation and preparation in anticipation of a new request for new capacity from load serving entities. Third, we are engaged in the identification of collaborative value enhancing projects with communities and businesses located near our plants. West Coast Power's plants are, for example, considered excellent candidates for the co-location of desalination plants. In case the said initiatives fail, we are taking active steps to assess the value of our property for non-power generation purposes. The real estate value from our plant locations is promising as two of West Coast Power's plants are situated at choice locations on the Pacific coast.

NRG's assets in the Western region include three additional power plants, Red Bluff and Chowchilla (94 MW total), located in northern California that have some locational value and one plant in Henderson, Nevada (Saguaro), that is contracted to Nevada Power and two steam hosts. NRG has entered into a resource adequacy agreement with PG&E Corporation, or PG&E, for the capacity of the Red Bluff and Chowchilla units that expires December 31, 2007. The Saguaro plant in Nevada is contracted to Nevada Power through 2022, one steam host (Pioneer) whose contract expires in 2007 (with a negotiated renewal) and a steam off taker (Ocean Spray), whose contract runs through 2015. The Saguaro plant had a long-term gas supply agreement that expired in July 2005 and the plant is now exposed to the monthly spot gas market. At present, Saguaro cannot pass higher natural gas costs through to its customers, and the plant is currently experiencing negative cash flows. Consequently, during 2005, we wrote down our equity investment in Saguaro by approximately \$27 million. NRG is currently researching a number of alternatives for its investment in Saguaro.

Facilities

NRG's power generation assets in the Western region as of December 31, 2005 are summarized in the table below:

<u>Plant</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>% Owned</u>	<u>Net Generation Capacity (MW)</u>	<u>Primary Fuel Type</u>
WCP⁽¹⁾				
Encina	Carlsbad, CA	50.0%	483	Natural Gas
El Segundo	El Segundo, CA	50.0%	335	Natural Gas
Cabrillo II	San Diego, CA	50.0%	86	Natural Gas
Total WCP			904	
Other Western Region Assets				
Saguaro	Henderson, NV	50.0%	46	Natural Gas
Chowchilla	Northern CA	100.0%	49	Natural Gas
Red Bluff	Northern CA	100.0%	45	Natural Gas
			140	
Total Western Region			1,044	

(1) On December 27, 2005, NRG entered into a purchase and sale agreement to acquire Dynegy's 50% ownership interest in WCP Holdings to become the sole owner of power plants totaling approximately 1,800 MW of generation capacity in the Western region. The transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2006.

NRG's assets in the Western region consist primarily of older, higher heat rate, gas-fired plants in southern California. These plants, while older and less efficient than newer combined cycle plants, possess locational advantages during peak hours when the newer, remotely located plants are unable to get through transmission congestion in southern California. As a result, the Cal ISO designated NRG's El Segundo, Encina and Cabrillo II plants as RMR qualifying units in 2005, and therefore those plants are entitled to certain fixed-cost payments from the Cal ISO for the right to dispatch those units during periods of locational constraints. Initially, transmission upgrades by Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas and Electric in 2005 caused the Cal ISO to drop the RMR designation for both El Segundo and the Encina Unit 4 for 2006. However, Cal ISO designated Encina Unit 4 as an RMR unit in a letter to Cabrillo Power I dated December 22, 2005, and a filing requesting FERC approval of the requisite changes to Cabrillo Power I's RMR agreement for 2006 was made on December 29, 2005. This change, if approved, will assure that Encina Units 4 and 5 will receive partial cost recovery under RMR and both units will be available in the market for 2006.

Market Framework

The majority of NRG's assets in the Western region are located within the control area of the Cal ISO. The Cal ISO operates a financially settled real time balancing market. There are currently no organized day ahead markets in the Western region and such forward markets in California currently operate similarly to those in the ERCOT market with all power sales and purchases consummated bilaterally between individual counterparties and scheduled for physical delivery with the Cal ISO. All plants are subject to the FERC "must offer" order, an order instituted during the energy crisis of 2000-2001 requiring any generator capable of operating and not subject to a bilateral agreement to make its capacity available to Cal ISO. The compensation paid by the Cal ISO for such service generally covers only variable costs. Additionally, California generators remain subject to a \$250 per MWh price cap, another legacy of the energy crisis mentioned above. FERC approved an increase in the "softcap" from \$250 per MWh to \$400 per MWh, effective January 1, 2006. NRG is working with various industry groups and governmental authorities to put

market reforms in place in California that will encourage new investment and enable generators to earn acceptable returns on new and existing investments.

WCP will continue to pursue repowering opportunities at the El Segundo, Encina and Long Beach plants where grid stability and in-load resource adequacy is needed. On December 23, 2004, the CEC approved NRG's application for a permit to repower the existing El Segundo site and replace retired units 1 and 2 with 630 MW of new combined cycle generation. On January 19, 2005, the CEC voted unanimously to reconsider its December 23, 2004 decision to certify the repowering project. The reconsideration hearing took place on February 2, 2005 and the permit was approved by unanimous vote of the CEC. The reconsideration extended the 30-day period in which parties may petition for rehearing or seek judicial review to March 4, 2005. A petition seeking review of the CEC final order was filed with the California Supreme Court on March 14, 2005. On August 31, 2005, the California Supreme Court refused to hear the case, making that date the effective date of the permit. The El Segundo permit has as a condition the payment of \$5 million by the project to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Fund with the first \$1 million being due in equally quarterly installments beginning 30 days following the disposition of all appeals. The initial quarterly payment has been made. Should we elect to repower the Long Beach site, we will do it outside of the CEC permitting process. We do not believe the CEC can legally assert jurisdiction over a Long Beach repowering project as the total anticipated megawatts added will be less than the number of megawatts retired. The California Court of Appeals, in a case involving the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, held that the CEC jurisdiction is only required where the total megawatts added exceed the existing megawatts of capacity by over 50 megawatts.

In California, the Cal ISO continues with its plan to move toward markets similar to PJM, NYISO and ISO-NE with its Market Redesign & Technology Upgrade, or MRTU — formerly MD02. These changes, once implemented, will re-establish a day-ahead time market and allow for multiple settlements. We view this as a vast improvement to the existing structure. In general, the Cal ISO is continuing along a path of small incremental changes rather than significant market restructuring. Although numerous stakeholder meetings have been held, the final market design remains unknown at this time. The effect of the new MRTU changes on us cannot be determined at this time. In addition to that activity, the California Public Utility Commission, or CPUC, recently issued their Resource Adequacy Order, which we believe will ultimately create greater opportunities for merchant generators in California. However, the final order did delay the implementation of local capacity requirements and allowed a liberalized phase out of firm liquidated damages contracts, which may act as a disincentive for load serving entities to contract for our capacity over the next two years. Assembly Bill 1576 which will promote and codify the recovery of costs from repowered facilities — thus making contracting from these sites more attractive to the in-state-utilities, was passed by the Senate on September 8, 2005, and signed by the Governor on September 29, 2005. This provides opportunities for the Western region, as WCP currently holds a permit for repowering up to 630 MW at the El Segundo facility and options for redevelopment at the Long Beach facility. Both facilities are positioned for possible long-term contracts as the market rules and structure fall into place in the near future.

The CEC recently issued their 2005 Energy Report — Range of Need and Policy Recommendations To the California Public Utilities Commission, or CPUC. That study confirmed that the SCE franchise territory will require over 8,000 MW of new generation capacity by 2009; a dire prediction for a state with limited new resources coming on line and retirement of older facilities accelerating. There is some indication that the various regulatory agencies are responding to these warnings by moving to design a market that will provide the incentives to invest in new generation. The CPUC now requires that load-serving entities meet a 15-17% reserve margin by June 2006. This has prompted RFOs from load-serving entities, with the stated goal of engaging in bilateral contract negotiations with the merchant generators to secure their long-term capacity needs. Load-serving entities must demonstrate, by January 27, 2006 and by September 30 for each year thereafter that they have secured at least 90% of their capacity needs for the following year. The CPUC order requiring a demonstration of adequate capacity should present opportunities to enter into new bilateral agreements pursuant to competitive RFO processes. The Red Bluff and Chowchilla facilities have received capacity contracts for the period April 1, 2006 through December 31, 2007 from a major load serving entity.

The capacity for El Segundo Units 3 and 4 has been secured under a tolling agreement with a major load serving entity for the period May 2006 through April 2008.

In September 2004, Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed AB2006, commonly referred to as the “re-regulation” initiative. A proposition (Proposition 80) that would amend legislation forever prohibiting “customer choice” in California was defeated in a November 2005 special election.

OTHER

Other North American Assets

As of December 31, 2005, NRG owned approximately 1,467 MW of generating capacity in other segments of the United States. NRG’s other North American power generation assets are summarized in the table below:

Plant	Location	% Owned	Net Generating Capacity MW	Primary Fuel Type
Audrain *	Vandalia, MO	100.0%	577	Natural Gas
Rockford I (Peaker)	Rockford, IL	100.0%	310	Natural Gas
Rocky Road Partnership *	East Dundee, IL	50.0%	165	Natural Gas
Rockford II (Peaker)	Rockford, IL	100.0%	160	Natural Gas
Dover	Dover, DE	100.0%	104	Natural Gas/Coal
Power Smith Cogeneration	Oklahoma City, OK	6.25%	7	Natural Gas
Ilion Cogeneration *	New York	100.0%	58	Natural Gas
James River	Virginia	50.0%	55	Coal
Cadillac *	Cadillac, MI	50.0%	19	Wood
Paxton Creek	Harrisburg, PA	100.0%	12	Natural Gas
Other North American Assets			1,467	

* Certain of the above projects are in transition. The Audrain project is under contract for sale. Closing is expected in 2006. NRG is in advanced discussions regarding the sale of the Cadillac project. NRG is currently performing under an agreement whereby the Ilion project will be disconnected and terminated. On December 27, 2005, NRG entered into a purchase and sale agreement with Dynegy through which NRG will sell to Dynegy its 50% ownership interest in the jointly held entity that owns the Rocky Road power plant. The transaction is conditioned upon NRG’s acquisition of Dynegy’s 50% interest in WCP Holdings and is expected to close in the first quarter of 2006.

Australia and All Other Generation and Non-Generation Assets

As of December 31, 2005, NRG, through certain foreign subsidiaries, had investments in power generation projects located in Australia, Germany and Brazil with approximately 1,916 MW of total generating capacity. In addition, NRG owns interests in coal mines located in Australia and Germany.

NRG's international power generation assets as of December 31, 2005 are summarized in the table below:

<u>Plant</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>% Owned</u>	<u>Net Generating Capacity MW</u>	<u>Primary Fuel Type</u>
Operating Assets				
Flinders	Australia	100.0%	700	Coal
Gladstone	Australia	37.5%	605	Coal
Schkopau	Germany	41.9%	400	Coal
MIBRAG ⁽¹⁾	Germany	50.0%	55	Coal
Itiquira	Brazil	99.2%	156	Hydro
Total International Assets			1,916	

(1) Primarily a coal mining facility. Approximately 90% of MIBRAG's revenues represent coal sales and 8% represent electricity sales. MIBRAG owns 110 MW of net exportable generation. Approximately two-thirds of that amount is sold to third parties and one-third is used to power mining and other MIBRAG operations. NRG equity in net exportable electricity is 55 MW.

Australia

Asset Management Strategy. Our strategy for maximizing our return on investment in our assets concentrates on effective contract management, operating the plant to ensure safe and efficient operations and management of the equity investment, including cash flow and finances. NRG is currently considering strategic alternatives with respect to Australia either to reposition its assets more effectively within the National Electricity Market or to monetize its investment. We will seek to determine the best option to optimize our investment by the end of the second quarter of 2006.

NRG Flinders Assets. NRG Flinders is a merchant generation business that derives revenue from bidding its generation output into the South Australian region of the National Electricity Market, or NEM, by trading the plant as a portfolio, selling derivative hedges that are not plant specific and supplying minor retail sales via contract. The bidding of the plant as a portfolio supports strategies for maximizing revenue of the entire portfolio both in terms of pool and derivative revenues and the most economic fuel use. A hedge book is maintained such that the short to medium term revenue is secured via hedge levels up to and in the order of 75-80% of the plant output. The current book is underpinned by a medium term hedge with a major South Australian retailer.

The Gladstone Assets. We are the operators of the Gladstone facility, however, the Gladstone assets are owned in an unincorporated joint venture with other investors and NRG does not have unilateral control over management of the assets. Gladstone Power Station is fully contracted via a power purchase agreement and a capacity purchase agreement with Boyne Smelter Limited and Enertrade through 2029. Enertrade is a state owned company that trades the excess power in the NEM.

Germany

Asset Management Strategy

Our German assets are owned in partnership with other investors and NRG does not have direct control over operations. Our strategy for maximization of return on investment therefore concentrates on the following: contract management, monitoring of our facility operators to ensure safe, profitable and sustainable operations; management of cash flow and finances; and growth of our businesses through investments in projects related to our current businesses.

Thermal and Chilled Water Businesses

NRG Thermal's thermal and chilled water businesses have a steam and chilled water capacity of approximately 1,225 megawatt thermal equivalents, or MWt.

As of December 31, 2005, NRG Thermal owned heating and cooling systems that provide steam heating to approximately 555 customers and chilled water to 95 customers in five different cities in the United States. In addition, as of that date, NRG Thermal owned and operated three projects that serve industrial/government customers with high-pressure steam and hot water, an 88 MW combustion turbine peaking generation facility and an 16 MW coal-fired cogeneration facility in Dover, Delaware and a 12 MW gas-fired project in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Approximately 34% of Thermal's revenues are derived from its district heating and chilled water business in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Both our NRG Energy Center Pittsburgh and our NRG Energy Center Harrisburg anticipate filing rate cases during 2006 seeking increased rates under their tariffs for steam services as well as chilled water for Pittsburgh.

Resource Recovery Facilities

NRG's Resource Recovery business owns and operates fuel processing projects. The alternative fuel currently processed is municipal solid waste, approximately 85% of which is processed into refuse derived fuel, or RDF. NRG's Resource Recovery business has municipal solid waste processing capacity of 3,000 tons per day. NRG's Resource Recovery business owns and operates NRG Processing Solutions, which includes 14 composting and processing sites in Minnesota, of which five sites are permitted to operate as municipal solid waste transfer stations.

Competition

Wholesale power generation is a capital-intensive, commodity-driven business with numerous industry participants. We compete on the basis of the location of our plants and owning multiple plants in our regions, which increases the stability and reliability of our energy supply. Wholesale power generation is fundamentally a local business which, at present, is highly fragmented (relative to other commodity industries) and diverse in terms of industry structure. As such, there is a wide variation in terms of the capabilities, resources, nature and identity of the companies we compete against from market to market.

Employees

As of December 31, 2005, the combined company has 3,682 employees, approximately 1,694 of whom were covered by U.S. bargaining agreements. During 2005, neither NRG nor Texas Genco experienced any significant labor stoppages or labor disputes at their facilities.

Energy Regulatory Matters

As operators of power plants and participants in wholesale energy markets, we are subject to regulation by various federal and state government agencies. These include FERC, NRC, PUCT and certain other state public utility commissions in which our generating assets are located. In addition, we are also subject to the market rules, procedures and protocols of the various ISO markets in which we participate.

The plant operations of, and wholesale electric sales from our Texas assets are not currently subject to regulation by FERC, as they are deemed to operate solely within the ERCOT and not in interstate commerce. As discussed below, these operations are subject to regulations by PUCT as well as to regulation by the NRC with respect to its ownership interest in the STP.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

FERC, among other things, regulates the transmission and wholesale sale of electricity in interstate commerce under the authority of the Federal Power Act, or FPA. In addition, under existing regulations,

FERC determines whether an entity owning a generation facility is an Exempt Wholesale Generator, or EWG, as such was defined in the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, or PUHCA of 1935. FERC also determines whether a generation facility meets the ownership and technical criteria of a Qualifying Facility, or QF, under Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978, or PURPA. Each of NRG's U.S. generating facilities has either been determined by FERC to qualify as a QF, or the subsidiary owning the facility has been determined to be an EWG.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005. EAct 2005 was enacted into law on August 8, 2005. Among other things, EAct 2005 repealed PUHCA of 1935, amended PURPA to remove statutory restrictions on utility ownership of a QF and to remove a utility's obligation to buy from a QF under certain circumstances, and enacted the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005, or PUHCA of 2005. EAct 2005's PUHCA changes became effective February 8, 2006. EAct 2005's amendments to PURPA were effective as of August 8, 2005. Though generally supported by the industry and viewed as a positive development, EAct 2005 remains subject to FERC interpretation, and FERC has issued several rulemakings and rules to implement EAct, some of which are still ongoing. NRG is currently assessing the effect of EAct 2005 and these rulemakings issued by FERC to implement it on the company's regulatory environment and business.

Federal Power Act. The FPA gives FERC exclusive rate-making jurisdiction over wholesale sales of electricity and transmission of electricity in interstate commerce. Under the FPA, FERC, with certain exceptions, regulates the owners of facilities used for the wholesale sale of electricity or transmission in interstate commerce as public utilities. The FPA also gives FERC jurisdiction to review certain transactions and numerous other activities of public utilities. NRG's QFs are currently exempt from the FERC's rate regulation under Sections 205 and 206 of the FPA to the extent that sales are made pursuant to a contract established under PURPA and are not made under a market-based rate authorization from FERC.

Public utilities under the FPA are required to obtain FERC's acceptance, pursuant to Section 205 of the FPA, of their rate schedules for wholesale sales of electricity. All of NRG's non-QF generating companies and power marketing affiliates in the United States make sales of electricity pursuant to market-based rates authorized by FERC. FERC's orders that grant NRG's generating and power marketing companies market-based rate authority reserve the right to revoke or revise that authority if FERC subsequently determines that NRG can exercise market power in transmission or generation, create barriers to entry or engage in abusive affiliate transactions. In addition, our market-based sales are subject to certain market behavior rules and, if any of our generating or power marketing companies were deemed to have violated one of those rules, they would be subject to potential disgorgement of profits associated with the violation and/or suspension or revocation of their market-based rate authority, as well as criminal and civil penalties. As a condition to the orders granting us market-based rate authority, every three years NRG is required to file a market update to show that it continues to meet FERC's standards with respect to generation market power and other criteria used to evaluate whether entities qualify for market-based rates. NRG is also required to report to FERC any material changes in status that would reflect a departure from the characteristics that FERC relied upon when granting NRG's various generating and power marketing companies' market-based rates. If NRG's generating and power marketing companies were to lose their market-based rate authority, such companies would be required to obtain FERC's acceptance of a cost-of-service rate schedule and would become subject to the accounting, record-keeping and reporting requirements that are imposed on utilities with cost-based rate schedules.

Section 204 of the FPA gives FERC jurisdiction over a public utility's issuance of securities or assumption of liabilities. However, FERC typically grants blanket approval for future securities issuances or assumptions of liabilities to entities with market-based rate authority. In the event that one of NRG's public utility generating companies were to lose its market-based rate authority, such company's future securities issuances or assumptions of liabilities could require prior approval from FERC.

Section 203 of the FPA requires FERC's prior approval for the transfer of control over assets subject to FERC's jurisdiction. EAct 2005 amended this prior approval authority in a number of ways. In particular, transactions involving only generation assets which were previously exempt from FERC review under Section 203 of the FPA will now be subject to such review provided they meet the new \$10 million threshold.

The provisions of EPCRA 2005 relating to prior approval of asset acquisitions under the FPA and FERC's rules promulgated thereafter became effective February 8, 2006.

PUHCA. As discussed above, EPCRA 2005 repealed PUHCA of 1935, effective February 8, 2006, and replaces it with PUHCA of 2005. PUHCA of 2005 provides FERC with certain authority over and access to books and records of public utility holding companies not otherwise exempt by virtue of their ownership of EWGs, QFs and Foreign Utility Companies, or FUCOs. Because all of NRG's generating facilities have QF status or are owned through EWGs or FUCOs, NRG does not currently qualify as a "holding company" under PUHCA of 2005. As noted above, FERC has a rulemaking ongoing to implement PUHCA 2005, and several companies have sought clarification of FERC's rules.

Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act. PURPA was passed in 1978 in large part to promote increased energy efficiency and development of independent power producers. PURPA created QFs to further both goals, and FERC is primarily charged with administering PURPA as it applies to QFs. As discussed above, under current law, some categories of QFs may be exempt from regulation under the FPA as public utilities. PURPA incentives also initially included a requirement that utilities must buy and sell power to QFs. As noted above, EPCRA 2005 has amended several provisions of PURPA. Among other things, EPCRA of 2005 provides for the elimination of the obligation imposed on certain utilities to purchase power from QFs at an avoided cost rate under certain conditions. However, the purchase obligation is only eliminated if FERC first finds that a QF has non-discriminatory access to wholesale energy markets having certain characteristics (including nondiscriminatory transmission and interconnection services provided by a regional transmission entity in certain circumstances). Existing contracts entered into under PURPA are not expected to be impacted, however, certain of NRG's QFs currently interconnect into markets that may meet the qualifications for elimination of the PURPA purchase requirement. If the obligation to purchase from some or all of NRG's QFs is terminated, NRG will need to find alternative purchasers for the output of these QFs once their current contracts expire. Such alternative purchases will be at prevailing market rates, which may not be as favorable as the terms of our PURPA sales arrangements under existing contracts and thus may diminish the value of its QFs. In addition, under FERC regulations implementing EPCRA of 2005, QFs not making sales pursuant to state-approved avoided cost rates will become subject to FERC's ratemaking authority under the FPA and be required to obtain market rate authority in order to be allowed to sell power at market-based rates.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

The NRC is authorized under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or the AEA, among other things, to grant licenses for, and regulate the operation of, commercial nuclear power reactors. As a holder of an ownership interest in STP, our subsidiary Texas Genco, LP is an NRC licensee and is subject to NRC regulation. This NRC license gives it the right only to possess an interest in STP but not to operate it. Operating authority under the NRC operating license for STP is held by STPNOC. NRC regulation involves licensing, inspection, enforcement, testing, evaluation and modification of all aspects of plant design and operation (including the right to order a plant shutdown), technical and financial qualifications, and decommissioning funding assurance in light of NRC safety and environmental requirements. In addition, NRC written approval is required prior to a licensee transferring an interest in its license, either directly or indirectly. As a possession-only licensee (i.e., non-operating co-owner), the NRC's regulation of Texas Genco, LP primarily focuses on its ability to meet its financial and decommissioning funding assurance obligations. In connection with the acquisition by Texas Genco of a 30.8% interest in STP from CenterPoint Energy, the NRC required Texas Genco to enter into a support agreement with Texas Genco, LP to provide up to \$120 million to Texas Genco, LP if necessary to support operations at STP. Texas Genco entered into that support agreement on April 13, 2005. The support agreement remains in effect now that the Acquisition has been consummated.

Decommissioning Trusts. Upon expiration of the operating terms of the operation licenses for the two generating units at STP (currently scheduled for 2027 and 2028), the co-owners of STP are required under federal law to decontaminate and decommission STP. In May 2004, an outside consultant estimated a 44.0% share of the STP decommissioning costs to be approximately \$650 million in 2004 dollars.

Under NRC regulations, a power reactor licensee generally must pre-fund the full amount of its estimated NRC decommissioning obligations unless it is a rate regulated utility (or a state or municipal entity that sets its own rates) or has the benefit of a state-mandated non-bypassable charge available to periodically fund the decommissioning trust such that periodic payments to the trust, plus allowable earnings, will equal the estimated decommissioning obligations needed by the time decommissioning is expected to begin. Currently, Texas Genco, LP's funding against its decommissioning obligation is contained within two separate trusts. PUCT regulations provide for the periodic funding of our decommissioning obligations through non-bypassable charges collected by CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC and AEP Texas Central Company, or CenterPoint Houston and AEP TCC, from their customers.

In the event that the funds from the trusts are ultimately determined to be inadequate to decommission the STP facilities, the original owners of our STP interests, CenterPoint Houston and AEP TCC, each will be required to collect, through their PUCT-authorized non-bypassable charges to customers, additional amounts required to fund the decommissioning obligations relating to our 44.0% share, provided that we have complied with the PUCT's rules and regulations regarding decommissioning trusts. Following the completion of the decommissioning, if surplus funds remain in the decommissioning trusts, any excess will be refunded to the respective rate payers of CenterPoint Houston or AEP TCC (or their successors).

Public Utility Commission of Texas

Our Texas subsidiaries are registered as power generation companies with PUCT. PUCT also has jurisdiction over power generation companies with regard to the administration of nuclear decommissioning trusts, PUCT state-mandated capacity auctions and the implementation of measures to mitigate undue market power that a power generation company may have and to remedy market power abuses in the ERCOT market and, indirectly, through oversight of ERCOT.

Regulatory Developments

In New England, New York, the Mid-Atlantic region, the Midwest and California, FERC has approved regional transmission organizations, also commonly referred to as independent system operators, or ISOs. Most of these ISOs administer a wholesale centralized bid-based spot market in their regions pursuant to tariffs approved by FERC and associated ISO market rules. These tariffs/market rules dictate how the day ahead and real-time markets operate, how market participants may make bilateral sales to one another, and how entities with market-based rates shall be compensated within those markets. The ISOs in these regions also control access to and the operation of the transmission grid within their regions. In Texas, pursuant to a 1999 restructuring statute, the PUCT has granted similar responsibilities to ERCOT.

We are affected by rule/tariff changes that occur in the existing ISOs. The ISOs that oversee most of the wholesale power markets have in the past imposed, and may in the future continue to impose, price limitations and other mechanisms (in particular, market power mitigation rules) to address some of the volatility in these markets. These types of price limitations and other regulatory mechanisms may adversely affect the profitability of our generation facilities that sell energy into the wholesale power markets. In addition, new approaches to the sale of electric power, in particular capacity, have been proposed, and it is not yet clear how they will operate in times of market stress or whether they will provide adequate compensation to generators over the long term.

Regional Businesses — Market Developments

Texas (ERCOT) Region

Texas Nodal Protocols

At the direction of the PUCT, the ERCOT stakeholder process has developed the "Texas Nodal Protocols" that sets forth a complete and detailed revised wholesale market design based on locational marginal pricing (in place of the current ERCOT zonal market today). The stakeholder process took two years to complete and incorporates a variety of unique characteristics for a nodal market as the result of

accommodations reached by parties in the stakeholder process. Major elements include bilateral energy and ancillary schedules, day-ahead energy market, resource specific energy and ancillary service bid curves, direct assignment of all congestion rents, nodal energy prices for generators, aggregation of nodal to zonal energy prices for loads, congestion revenue rights (including pre-assignment for public power entities), and pricing safeguards. The PUCT will consider approval of the Texas Nodal Protocols by early 2006 and has indicated January 1, 2009, as the date for full implementation of the new market design. Under the expedited schedule, the evidentiary hearing concluded December 13, 2005, and briefing by parties concluded January 27, 2006.

For a detailed discussion on market developments for the Northeast, South Central, Western and Other regions, please see Item 15 — Note 26 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Environmental Matters

We are subject to a broad range of environmental and safety laws and regulations (across a broad number of jurisdictions) in the development, ownership, construction and operation of domestic and international projects. These laws and regulations generally require that governmental permits and approvals be obtained before construction or during operation of power plants. Environmental laws have become increasingly stringent over time, particularly the regulation of air emissions from power generators. Such laws generally require regular capital expenditures for power plant upgrades, modifications and the installation of certain pollution control equipment. It is not possible at this time to determine when or to what extent additional facilities, or modifications to existing or planned NRG facilities, will be required due to potential changes to environmental and safety laws and regulations, regulatory interpretations or enforcement policies. In general, future laws and regulations are expected to require the addition of emissions control or other environmental quality equipment or the imposition of certain restrictions on the operations of the combined company. We expect that future liability under, or compliance with, environmental requirements could have a material effect on our operations or competitive position.

U.S. Federal Environmental Initiatives

Air

On May 18, 2005, the US Environmental Protection Authority, or USEPA, published the Clean Air Mercury Rule, or CAMR, to permanently cap and reduce mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants. CAMR imposes limits on mercury emissions from new and existing coal-fired plants and creates a market-based cap-and-trade program that will reduce nationwide utility emissions of mercury in two phases (2010 and 2018). Consistent with the significant debate on whether the USEPA has authority to regulate mercury emissions through a cap-and-trade mechanism (as opposed to a command-and-control requirement to install “maximum achievable control technology”, or MACT, on a unit basis), 14 states, together with five environmental organizations, have filed petitions for reconsideration of CAMR. The states (including California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin) allege that the rule violates the Clean Air Act, or CAA, because it fails to treat mercury as a hazardous air pollutant. On August 4, 2005, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit denied the environmental petitioners’ request for a stay of CAMR. On October 28, 2005, the USEPA published notices of reconsideration of seven specific aspects of CAMR (including state allocations). Each of our coal-fired electric power plants will be subject to mercury regulation. However, since the rule has yet to be implemented by individual states and given the USEPA’s pending reconsideration of the rule, it is difficult to assess with certainty how CAMR will affect our operations. Nevertheless, we continue to actively review emerging mercury monitoring and mitigation strategies and technologies to identify the most cost-effective options for NRG in implementing required mercury emission controls on the stipulated schedule.

On May 12, 2005, the USEPA published the Clean Air Interstate Rule, or CAIR. This rule applies to 28 Eastern States and the District of Columbia and caps SO₂ and NO_x emissions from power plants in two phases (2010 and 2015 for SO₂ and 2009 and 2015 for NO_x). CAIR will apply to certain of the combined company’s power plants in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Delaware, Louisiana, Illinois, Penn-

sylvania, Maryland and Texas. States must achieve the required emission reductions through: (a) requiring power plants to participate in a USEPA-administered interstate cap-and-trade system; or (b) measures to be selected by individual states. On August 24, 2005, the USEPA published a proposed Federal Implementation Plan, or FIP, to ensure that generators affected by CAIR reduce emissions on schedule. In addition, on December 20, 2005, the USEPA signed proposed revisions to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (“NAAQS”) for fine particulates (PM_{2.5}) and inhalable coarse particulates (PM₁₀-PM_{2.5}), that would require affected states to implement further rules to address SO₂ and NO_x emissions (as precursors of fine particulates in the atmosphere). Further, on November 22, 2005, the USEPA granted requests to reconsider four specific aspects of CAIR (including the inclusion of certain states) with final action on reconsideration expected by March 15, 2006. While our current business plans include initiatives to address emissions (for example, the conversion of Huntley and Dunkirk to burn low sulfur coal), until the final CAIR rule and NAAQS for PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀-2.5 and ozone are actually implemented by specific state legislation, it is not possible to identify with greater specificity the effect of CAIR on us. As noted below, certain states in which we operate have already announced plans to implement emissions reductions that go beyond the CAIR requirements. It is possible that investments in additional backend control technologies will be required and we continue to evaluate these issues.

Although we recognize the uncertainties regarding how CAMR and CAIR will be implemented, we expect to incur a substantial increase in our environmental capital expenditures between 2009 and 2012 in order to ensure compliance with CAMR and CAIR. We have currently estimated expenditures of around \$540 million for CAMR and CAIR compliance during this period for the NRG facilities most of which would be incurred at our various coal-fired plants in the Northeast region and South Central region. We have currently estimated our total capital expenditures for compliance with air pollution control regulations from 2006 to 2014 at the NRG facilities at approximately \$675 million.

From 1999 through 2005, Texas Genco invested approximately \$700 million for NO_x emissions controls at its plants. These emissions controls were installed to comply with regulations adopted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, or TCEQ, to attain the one-hour NAAQS for ozone, as well as provisions of the Texas electric restructuring law. As a result, emissions from our plants in the Houston-Galveston area have been reduced by approximately 88% from 1998 levels and our Texas fleet overall operates at one of the lowest NO_x emissions rates in the country. In aggregate, our Texas plants are in compliance with current NO_x emission limits and are not expected to incur material environmental capital expenditures to ensure NO_x emissions compliance in the next several years. The TCEQ has, however, initiated a rulemaking process for establishing lower NO_x emissions limits to assure compliance with the USEPA 8-hour ozone standard in the Houston-Galveston and Dallas-Fort Worth areas. It is possible that any new regulations implemented may require additional NO_x emission controls on the Texas plants in 2009 or beyond. We have currently estimated approximately \$70 million in additional capital expenditures with respect to compliance with air pollution control requirements (primarily replacement of catalyst for NO_x emission controls) between 2006 and 2014.

The USEPA had also proposed MACT standards for nickel from oil-fired units that would essentially require the installation of electrostatic precipitators on certain oil-fired units. These proposed requirements were originally included in drafts of CAMR. However, reflecting further dialogue with generation industry participants and additional scientific review, the nickel MACT provisions were omitted from CAMR. In fact, the USEPA issued a delisting rule on March 29, 2005 effectively removing the MACT standards for nickel (i.e., specific control technologies to be installed at each affected plant) at oil-fired power plants. A number of environmental groups lodged legal challenges to the USEPA’s delisting rule and the agency has agreed to reconsider this delisting, although it has not specified which issues will be reconsidered. As the delisting challenge relates to both nickel from oil-fired power plants and mercury from coal-fired plants, it is not possible to predict the outcome of the pending legal action.

NRG’s facilities in the eastern United States are subject to a cap-and-trade program governing NO_x emissions during the “ozone season” (May 1 through September 30). These rules essentially require that one NO_x allowance be held for each ton of NO_x emitted from fossil fuel-fired stationary boilers, combustion turbines, or combined cycle systems. Each of NRG’s facilities that is subject to these rules has been allocated

NO_x emissions allowances. NRG currently estimates that the portfolio total is currently sufficient to generally cover operations at these facilities through 2009. However, if at any point allowances are insufficient for the anticipated operation of each of these facilities, NRG must purchase NO_x allowances. Any obligation to purchase a substantial number of additional NO_x allowances could have a material adverse effect on NRG's operations.

The Clean Air Visibility Rule (or so-called BART rule) was published by the USEPA on July 6, 2005. This rule is designed to improve air quality in national parks and wilderness areas. The rule requires regional haze controls (by targeting SO₂ and NO_x emissions from sources including power plants of a certain vintage) through the installation of Best Available Retrofit Technology, or BART, in certain cases. States must develop implementation plans by December 2007 which may be satisfied through an emissions trading program for BART sources. Although the BART rule will apply to many of the Company's facilities, sources that are also subject to CAIR (which include most of our facilities) will likely be able to satisfy their obligations under the BART rule through compliance with the more stringent CAIR. Accordingly, no material additional expenditures are anticipated for compliance with the Clean Air Visibility Rule, beyond those required by CAIR.

In addition to federal regulation, national legislation has been proposed that would impose annual caps on U.S. power plant emissions of NO_x, SO₂, mercury, and, in some instances, CO₂. While the Administration's proposed Clear Skies Act (which would regulate the aforementioned pollutants except for CO₂) stalled in Senate Committee on March 9, 2005, the Bush Administration continues to support this legislation. Clear Skies overlaps significantly with CAIR and CAMR, and would likely modify or supersede those rules if enacted as federal legislation as proposed.

Twelve states and various environmental groups filed suit against the USEPA seeking confirmation that the USEPA has an existing obligation to regulate greenhouse gases, or GHGs, under the CAA. On July 15, 2005, the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (in *Commonwealth of Massachusetts v. EPA*) supported the USEPA's refusal to regulate GHG emissions from motor vehicles, although avoiding the broader issue of whether USEPA has authority, or an obligation, to regulate GHGs under the CAA. On September 1, 2005, five states requested reconsideration of this dismissal. While the specific issue under consideration is the USEPA's obligation to require GHG cuts from mobile sources, any decision implying that the USEPA has an obligation to regulate GHGs nationally has wider implications for the power generation sector. In 2004, eight states and the City of New York filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York against American Electric Power Company, Southern Company, Tennessee Valley Authority, Xcel Energy, Inc. and Cinergy Corporation, alleged to be the nation's five largest emitters of GHGs and all of which are owners of electric generation (*Connecticut v. AEP*). An injunction was sought against each defendant to force it to abate its contribution to the "global warming nuisance" by requiring CO₂ emissions caps and annual reductions in those caps for at least a decade. On September 15, 2005, the public nuisance case was dismissed on the basis that the claims made raised "political questions" reserved to the legislative and executive branches of the federal government. On September 20, 2005, plaintiffs filed an appeal of this decision with the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. The initiation of GHG-related litigation and proposed legislation is becoming more frequent, although the outcomes of such suits or proposed litigation cannot be predicted. Although NRG has not been named as a defendant in any related suits to date, the outcome of such suits could affect the overall regulation of GHGs under the CAA. Our compliance costs with any mandated GHG reductions in the future could be material. See also "Regional U.S. Environmental Regulatory Initiatives," below.

In the 1990s, the USEPA commenced an industry-wide investigation of coal-fired electric generators to determine compliance with environmental requirements under the CAA associated with repairs, maintenance, modifications and operational changes made to facilities over the years. As a result, the USEPA and several states filed suits against a number of coal-fired power plants in mid-western and southern states alleging violations of the CAA NSR/Prevention of Significant Deterioration, or PSD, requirements. In one of the more prominent suits of this type, involving Ohio Edison, a subsidiary of First Energy, the USEPA reached settlement on March 18, 2005 for NSR issues with respect to all coal-fired plant located in Ohio, obligating First Energy to spend \$1.1 billion to install pollution control equipment through 2010. In another similar suit,

on June 15, 2005 the USEPA appeal in the Duke Energy case was heard with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit holding in favor of Duke's position as to what type of modification triggers NSR and PSD provisions. Rehearing petitions filed in this matter by the Department of Justice and some environmental groups were denied on August 30, 2005. On December 28, 2005, further petitions were filed by environmental groups requesting Supreme Court review of this decision. On June 3, 2005, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama reached conclusions favorable to Alabama Power through the court's interpretation of NSR rules relating to "routine maintenance, repair and replacement," or RMRR, and the correct test for determining a significant net emissions increase. However, divergent rulings exist on NSR issues across the country, with courts in Ohio and Indiana providing interpretations of the NSR provisions different from those in the Duke and Alabama cases. For example, on August 29, 2005, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana ruled in *U.S. v. Cinergy* in favor of the USEPA and specifically rejected the conclusion in the Duke case.

In an effort to revise the legal requirements as to what amounts to a major modification and what emissions tests apply, USEPA issued its NSR Reform Rule on December 31, 2002, although its implementation was stayed by court order on December 24, 2003. There have been a number of legal challenges to different aspects of the proposed rule. On October 13, 2005 USEPA proposed changes to its NSR permitting program to stipulate an emissions test standard based on hourly emission rates, rather than aggregate annual emissions.

Given the divergent cases and rules in this area (at both the federal and state levels), it is difficult to predict with certainty the parameters of the final NSR/PSD regime. However, in October 2005, the USEPA announced that due to the promulgation of programs such as CAIR and the Clean Air Visibility Rule, it is placing a lower priority on continued enforcement of suspected NSR/PSD violations. In the meantime, we continue to analyze all proposed projects at our facilities to ensure ongoing compliance with the applicable legal requirements.

Water

In July 2004, USEPA published rules governing cooling water intake structures at existing power facilities (the Phase II 316(b) Rules). The Phase II 316(b) Rules specify certain location, design, construction and capacity standards for cooling water intake structures at existing power plants using the largest amounts of cooling water. These rules will require implementation of the Best Technology Available, or BTA, for minimizing adverse environmental impacts unless a facility shows that such standards would result in very high costs or little environmental benefit. The Phase II 316(b) Rules require our facilities that withdraw water in amounts greater than 50 million gallons per day (and utilize at least 25% for cooling purposes) to submit certain surveys, plans and operational and restoration measures (with wastewater permit applications or renewal applications) that would minimize certain adverse environmental impacts of impingement or entrainment. The Phase II 316(b) Rules affect a number of NRG's plants, specifically those with once-through cooling systems. Compliance options include the addition of control technology, modified operations, restoration or a combination of these, and are subject to a comparative cost and cost/benefit justification. While NRG has conducted a number of the requisite studies, until all the needed studies throughout our fleet have been completed and consultations on the results have occurred with USEPA (or its delegated state or regional agencies), it is not possible to estimate with certainty the capital costs that will be required for compliance with the Phase II 316(b) Rules, although current estimates for the combined company's facilities involve capital expenditures and related costs of around \$80 million between 2006 and 2012. In addition, the Phase II Rules have been challenged by industrial and environmental groups and the outcome of this litigation could affect our obligations pursuant to these rules. Further, Phase III rules, which were proposed in November 2004, may be applicable to some of our smaller power plants when finalized.

Nuclear Waste

Under the U.S. Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, the federal government must remove and ultimately dispose of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste from nuclear plants such as STP. Consistent with the Act, owners of nuclear plants, including NRG and the other owners of STP, entered into contracts

setting out the obligations of the owners and the U.S. Department of Energy, or DOE, including the fees being paid by the owners for DOE's services. Since 1998, the DOE has been in default on its obligations to begin removing spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste from reactors. On January 28, 2004, Texas Genco LP and the other owners of STP filed a breach of contract suit against the DOE in order to protect against the running of a statute of limitations.

Under the federal Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act of 1980, as amended, the state of Texas is required to provide, either on its own or jointly with other states in a compact, for the disposal of all low-level radioactive waste generated within the state. The state of Texas has agreed to a compact with the states of Maine and Vermont for a disposal facility that would be located in Texas. That compact was ratified by Congress and signed by President Clinton in 1998. In 2003, the state of Texas enacted legislation allowing a private entity to be licensed to accept low-level radioactive waste for disposal. We intend to continue to ship low-level waste material from STP off-site for as long as an alternative disposal site is available. Should existing off-site disposal become unavailable, the low-level waste material will then be stored on-site. STP's on-site storage capacity is expected to be adequate for STP's needs until other off-site facilities become available.

Regional U.S. Environmental Regulatory Initiatives

Texas (ERCOT) Region. The USEPA's Region VI (which includes Texas, Louisiana, and three other states) indicated in September 2004 that it intends to evaluate 75%-80% of the coal-fired power plants in its region over the next several years for potential violations of the NSR program or PSD. During air emissions inspections of the Limestone plant in November 2004, a USEPA inspector informally advised Texas Genco that the USEPA has drafted, but not yet sent, an information request letter pursuant to Section 114 of the CAA concerning potential NSR or PSD issues at the Limestone plant. As of March 3, 2006, NRG has not received this letter and has not had any further communications on this issue with the USEPA.

Northeast Region. Massachusetts air regulations prescribe schedules under which six existing coal-fired power plants in-state are required to meet stringent emission limits for NO_x, SO₂, mercury, and CO₂. The state has reserved the issue of control of carbon monoxide and particulate matter emissions for future consideration. Our Somerset plant is subject to these regulations. NRG has installed natural gas re-burn technology to meet the NO_x and SO₂ limits. On June 4, 2004, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, or MADEP, issued its regulation on the control of mercury emissions. The effect of this regulation is that starting October 1, 2006, Somerset will be capped at 13.1 lbs/year of mercury and as of January 1, 2008, Somerset must achieve a reduction in its mercury inlet-to-outlet concentration of 85%. We plan to meet the requirements through the management of our fuels and the use of early and off-site reduction credits. Additionally, NRG has entered into an agreement with MADEP to retire or repower the Somerset station by the end of 2009.

The Massachusetts carbon regulation 310 CMR 7.29 "Emissions Standards for Power Plants" requires coal-fired generation located within the state to comply with CO₂ emission restrictions. A carbon emissions cap applies beginning January 1, 2006, while a rate requirement will apply in 2008. This regulation means that if CO₂ emissions at our Somerset facility exceed the annual cap from 2006, then the excess must be offset with approved CO₂ credits. However, since there are currently no approved CO₂ credits for use in Massachusetts, MADEP has proposed that generators annually report overages, starting in 2006, and at the time that there is an established CO₂ market operating in the state, NRG would be required to purchase or generate sufficient CO₂ credits to offset the balance. On December 20, 2005, Massachusetts issued proposed revisions to the CO₂ regulations, including a proposed implementing regime that could allow the use of on-site and off-site generated CO₂ credits, with a price backstop of \$10/ton. MADEP expects to finalize these revisions in spring 2006. Massachusetts was involved in the initial negotiations regarding the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, or RGGI, which is discussed below, but did not enter into the Memorandum of Understanding with other northeastern states. Given the regulatory uncertainty surrounding implementation of Massachusetts's carbon market and the corresponding costs of CO₂ allowances when that market exists, Somerset could be materially affected if it does not retire by the end of 2009.

Pursuant to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, or NYSDEC, rules (the Acid Deposition Reduction Program, ADRP) fossil-fuel-fired combustion units in New York must reduce SO₂ emissions to 25% below the levels allowed in the federal Acid Rain Program starting January 2005 and to 50% below those levels starting in January 2008. In addition, under ADRP generators now also have to meet the ozone season NO_x emissions limit year-round. Our strategy for complying with the ADRP involves the generation of early reductions of SO₂ and NO_x emissions associated with fuel switching and use such reductions to extend the timeframe for implementing technological controls, which could ultimately include the addition of flue gas desulfurization, or FGD, and selective catalytic reduction, or SCR, equipment. On January 11, 2005, NRG reached an agreement with the State of New York and the NYSDEC in connection with emissions reductions at the Huntley and Dunkirk facilities, as discussed below in Legal Proceedings. The Consent Decree was entered by the U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York on June 3, 2005. NRG does not anticipate that any additional material capital expenditures, beyond those already spent, will be required for our Huntley and Dunkirk plants to meet the current compliance standards under the Consent Decree through 2010, although, this does not reflect any additional capital expenditures that may be required to satisfy other federal and state laws.

Huntley Power LLC, Dunkirk Power LLC and Oswego Power LLC entered into a Consent Order with NYSDEC, effective March 31, 2004, regarding certain alleged opacity exceedances. The Consent Order required the respondents to pay a civil penalty of \$1.0 million which was paid in April 2004. The Order also stipulates penalties (payable quarterly) for future violations of opacity requirements and a compliance schedule. NRG recently resolved a dispute with NYSDEC over the method of calculation for stipulated penalties. NRG paid NYSDEC \$1.1 million at the end of 2005 to cover the stipulated penalty payments that had been withheld pending resolution of the dispute.

While no rules affecting NRG's existing facilities have been formally proposed, Delaware has recently issued a "Start Action Notice" to impose emissions standards for SO₂, NO_x and mercury. Delaware is pursuing such rule-making based on recent determinations that portions of the state are in non-attainment for NAAQS for fine particulates, and all of the state is in non-attainment for the NAAQS for 8-Hour Ozone. We are evaluating emissions reduction opportunities which may include blending low sulfur western coals. NRG is actively participating in the Delaware rule-making as a stakeholder and will continue to be involved in environmental policy-making efforts in Delaware through the Governor's Energy Task Force and interactions with legislators, the PSC and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, or DNREC.

The Ozone Transport Commission, or OTC, was established by Congress and governs ozone and the NO_x budget program in certain eastern states, including Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York and Delaware. In January 2005, the OTC redoubled its efforts to develop a multi-pollutant regime (SO₂, NO_x, mercury and CO₂) that is expected to be completed by mid-2006 (with individual state implementation to follow). On June 8, 2005, the OTC members unanimously resolved to implement "CAIR-Plus" emissions regulations, based on concerns that the USEPA's CAIR fails to achieve attainment of 8-hour ozone and fine particulate matter. As a result, the OTC proposes to implement a regional plan containing emissions reduction targets for power plants that exceed those under CAIR. The OTC targets and timelines are as follows: (a) through September 2006: write model rule, with participating states signing a Memorandum of Understanding; (b) by December 2006 states file their implementation plans or reduction regulations; (c) 2008 Phase I reductions of NO_x (to 1.87 million tons) and SO₂ (to 3.0 million tons) apply; (d) 2012 Phase II reductions of NO_x (to 1.28 million tons) and SO₂ (to 2.0 million tons) apply; and (e) 2015 90% mercury removal required. OTC's proposed CAIR-Plus involves emissions reductions which are both sooner and more aggressive than CAIR (e.g., aggregate NO_x reductions would be 25% greater than CAIR, while SO₂ reductions would be 33% greater than CAIR). NRG continues to be engaged in the OTC stakeholder process. While it is not possible to predict the outcome of this regional legislative effort, to the extent that the OTC is successful in implementing emissions requirements that are more stringent than existing regimes (including the recently reached New York settlement), NRG could be materially impacted.

On December 20, 2005, seven northeastern states entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to create a regional initiative to establish a cap-and-trade GHG program for electric generators, referred to as the

Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, or RGGI. The model RGGI rule is scheduled to be announced within the next few months, with an estimate of two to three years for participating states to finalize implementing regulations. The current proposal is for the program to start in 2009, with a review in 2015 and an assessment of further reductions after 2020. The proposal involves an overall RGGI cap (with state sub-caps) based on CO₂ emissions for the period 2000 to 2004. That cap, referred to as “stabilization,” will remain the same through 2015, with a 10% reduction between 2015 and 2020. Decisions on allowance allocations will be made by each state, although at least 25% of the state allocations will be set aside for public purposes, suggesting that from implementation, generators in the RGGI region may receive an allocation of allowances that is materially less than required to cover existing emissions, potentially having a significant effect on the cost of operations. While the details of the model rule are still under development, when RGGI is implemented, our plants in New York, Delaware and Connecticut may be materially affected. If Massachusetts, which was originally involved in the development of RGGI, decides to participate, NRG’s plant in that state may also be affected.

South Central Region. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, or LADEQ, has promulgated State Implementation Plan revisions to bring the Baton Rouge ozone non-attainment area into compliance with applicable NAAQS. NRG participated in development of the revisions, which require the reduction of NO_x emissions at the gas-fired Big Cajun I Power Station and coal-fired Big Cajun II Power Station to 0.1 lbs/ MMBtu and 0.21 lbs/ MMBtu NO_x, respectively (both based on heat input). This revision of the Louisiana air rules would constitute a change-in-law covered by agreement between Louisiana Generating, LLC and the electric cooperatives (power off-takers), allowing nearly all of the costs of added combustion controls to be passed through to the cooperatives. The combustion controls required at the Big Cajun II Generating Station to meet the state’s NO_x regulations have been installed.

On January 27, 2004, Louisiana Generating, LLC and Big Cajun II received a request for information under Section 114 of the CAA from USEPA seeking information primarily related to physical changes made at Big Cajun II and subsequently received a notice of violation, or NOV, based on alleged NSR violations. See “— Legal Proceedings” for a discussion of this matter. NRG is up-to-date with all USEPA information requests it has received in connection with this matter and has not been contacted by USEPA pursuant to the NOV since May 2005.

Western Region. The El Segundo Generating Station is regulated by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, or SCAQMD. Before its retirement as of January 1, 2005, the Long Beach Generating Station was also regulated by SCAQMD. SCAQMD approved amendments to its Regional Clean Air Incentives Market, or RECLAIM, NO_x regulations on January 7, 2005. RECLAIM is a regional emission-trading program targeting NO_x reductions to achieve state and federal ambient air quality standards for ozone. Among other changes, the amendments reduce the NO_x RECLAIM Trading Credit, or RTC, holdings of El Segundo Power, LLC and Long Beach Generation LLC facilities by certain amounts. Notwithstanding these amendments, retained RTCs are expected to be sufficient to operate El Segundo Units 3 and 4 as high as 100% capacity factor for the life of those units.

On October 6, 2005, the California Public Utilities Commission, or CPUC, adopted a policy statement on GHG Performance Standards as part of a focus on emissions from conventional fossil-fuel resources. The adopted policy statement directs the CPUC to investigate a GHG emissions performance standard for energy procurement by the state’s Investor-Owned Utilities, or IOUs, that is no higher than the GHG emissions levels of a combined-cycle natural gas turbine for all energy procurement contracts longer than three years in length and for all new IOU owned generation. On January 13, 2006, the CPUC issued a draft decision establishing a load-based GHG emission cap that will apply to IOUs. While the decision doesn’t establish specific caps, it does indicate a preference for using 1990 emissions as the preferred baseline year. The decision also restricts IOUs from entering into power purchase agreements with generators unless the generator reports its GHG emissions through the California Climate Action Registry. West Coast Power is a member of the Registry and will be finalizing its 2004 GHG inventory by the end of February 2006. The CPUC is obligated to evaluate and decide on the details of the GHG cap and trading program under a recent draft decision as part of either an existing or new CPUC rulemaking sometime in 2006.

On February 9, 2006, the California State Lands Commission (“CSLC”) postponed an agenda item regarding, “Commission consideration of a resolution supporting the elimination of once through cooling in California power generation facilities.” The draft resolution urges the California State Water Resource Control Board and the California Energy Commission to develop policies that eliminate once through cooling systems at new and existing power plants in California. The draft resolution also requires that the CSLC not approve new or extended leases for power plants utilizing once through cooling systems after 2020. This resolution, if adopted, would affect the long term operation of the once through cooling systems at the El Segundo and Encina power stations as both systems rely on submerged land leases with the CSLC and both of which are currently undergoing lease renewals. Under pressure from power and desalination water industry groups, the CSLC agreed to postpone the agenda item until the April 27, 2006 Commission meeting in order to better understand the costs and impacts associated with the decision.

Domestic Site Remediation Matters

Under certain federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations, a current or previous owner or operator of any facility, including an electric generating facility, may be required to investigate and remediate releases or threatened releases of hazardous or toxic substances or petroleum products at the facility. We may also be held liable to a governmental entity or to third parties for property damage, personal injury and investigation and remediation costs incurred by a party in connection with hazardous material releases or threatened releases. These laws, including the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, or CERCLA, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, or SARA, impose liability without regard to whether the owner knew of or caused the presence of the hazardous substances, and courts have interpreted liability under such laws to be strict (without fault) and joint and several. The cost of investigation, remediation or removal of any hazardous or toxic substances or petroleum products could be substantial. Cleanup obligations can often be triggered during the closure or decommissioning of a facility, in addition to spills or other occurrences during our operations.

On January 18, 2005, NRG Indian River Operations, Inc. received a letter of informal notification from DNREC stating that it may be a potentially responsible party with respect to the Burton Island Landfill, along with Delmarva Power. The letter signals only that an investigation is to be commenced and is not a conclusive determination. Further, the Burton Island Landfill is a site that would potentially qualify for a remedy under a “Voluntary Cleanup Program” or VCP. We have signaled our interest in being considered for a VCP should matters progress. With the exception of the foregoing, neither NRG nor Texas Genco have been named as a potentially responsible party with respect to any off-site waste disposal matter.

Texas (ERCOT) Region. The lignite used to fuel the Limestone facility is obtained from a surface mine adjacent to the facility under an amended long-term contract with Texas Westmoreland Coal Co., or TWCC, entered into in August 1999. TWCC is responsible for performing ongoing reclamation activities at the mine until all lignite reserves have been produced. When production is completed at the mine, Texas Genco is responsible for final mine reclamation obligations. The Railroad Commission of Texas has imposed a bond obligation of approximately \$70 million on TWCC for the reclamation of this lignite mine. Final reclamation activity is expected to commence in 2015. Pursuant to the contract with TWCC, an affiliate of CenterPoint Energy, Inc. has guaranteed \$50 million of this obligation until 2010. The remaining sum of approximately \$20 million has been bonded by the mine operator, TWCC. Under the terms of Texas Genco’s agreement, Texas Genco is required to post a corporate guarantee in the amount of \$50 million of TWCC’s reclamation bond when CenterPoint’s obligation lapses. As of December 31, 2005, Texas Genco had accrued approximately \$17 million related to the mine reclamation obligation.

Further details regarding our Domestic Site Remediation obligations for the Northeast, South Central and Western regions can be found at Item 15 — Note 27 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

International Environmental Matters

Most of the foreign countries in which NRG owns or may acquire or develop independent power projects have environmental and safety laws or regulations relating to the ownership or operation of electric power

generation facilities. These laws and regulations, like those in the U.S., are constantly evolving and have a significant impact on international wholesale power producers. In particular, NRG's international power generation facilities will likely be affected by emissions limitations and operational requirements imposed by the Kyoto Protocol, which is an international treaty related to greenhouse gas emissions which entered into force on February 16, 2005, and country-based restrictions pertaining to global climate change concerns.

We retain appropriate advisors in foreign countries and seek to design our international asset management strategy to comply with each country's environmental and safety laws and regulations. There can be no assurance that changes in such laws or regulations will not adversely effect our international operations.

Australia. With respect to Australia, climate change is considered a long-term issue (e.g. 2010 and beyond) and the Australian government's response to date has included a number of initiatives, all of which have had no or minimal impact on our operations. The Australian government has stated that Australia will achieve its Kyoto Protocol target of 8% below 1990 greenhouse gas emission levels for the 2008 to 2012 reporting period, but that Australia will not ratify the Kyoto Protocol. Each Australian state government is considering implementing a number of climate change initiatives that will vary considerably state to state, with the possible exception of an inter-jurisdictional state-led carbon trading proposal (which is not supported by the federal government).

NRG Flinders disposes of ash to slurry ponds at Port Augusta in South Australia. At the end of life of the power station, NRG Flinders will have an obligation to remediate these ponds in accordance with a plan accepted by the South Australian Environment Protection Agency and confirmed in the Environment Compliance Agreement between the South Australian Minister for Environment and Heritage and NRG Flinders dated September 20, 2000, or the EC Agreement. The estimated cost of remediation including contingencies according to the plan is AUD 2.0 million (approximately \$1.5 million). There is no timeline associated with the obligation, but the EC Agreement extends to 2025. Under these arrangements, required remediation relates to surface remediation and does not entail any groundwater remediation.

MIBRAG/Schkopau, Germany. While CO₂ emissions trading began in Germany in 2005, pursuant to European Union obligations under the Kyoto Protocol, we do not currently expect the CO₂ trading program to be a material constraint on our business in Germany. Changes to the German Emission Control Directive will result in lower NO_x emission limits for plants firing conventional fuels (Section 13 of the Directive) and co-firing waste products (Section 17 of the Directive). The new regulations will require the Mumsdorf and Deuben Power stations to install additional controls to reduce NO_x emissions in 2006. These plant modifications are proceeding on schedule.

The European Union's Groundwater Directive and Mine Wastewater Management Directive are in the rule-making stage with the final outcome still under debate. Given the uncertainty regarding the possible outcome of the debate on these directives, we cannot quantify at this time the effect such requirements would have on our future coal mining operations in Germany.

A new law specifically dealing with the relocation of the residents of Heuersdorf from the path of the mining plan was enacted by the legislature of Saxony in 2004. On November 25, 2005, the Saxony Constitutional Court upheld the constitutionality of the Heuersdorf act. This ruling cannot be appealed. Nuisance suits remain a possibility, but the court's ruling brings the matter closer to final resolution.

The supply contracts under which MIBRAG mines lignite from the Profen mine expire on December 31, 2021. The contracts under which MIBRAG mines lignite from the Schleenhain mine expire in 2041. At the end of each mine's productive lifetime, MIBRAG will be required to reclaim certain areas. MIBRAG accrues for these eventual expenses and estimates the cost of the final reclamation to approach approximately €176 million in the instance of the Schleenhain mine and €132 million for Profen.

Insurance

General

NRG carries insurance coverage consistent with companies engaged in similar commercial operations with similar properties, including business interruption insurance for the coal and lignite plants. However, NRG's insurance policies are subject to certain limits and deductibles as well as policy exclusions. Adequate insurance coverage in the future may be more expensive or may not be available on commercially reasonable terms. Also, the insurance proceeds received for any loss or any damage to any of our generation plants may not be sufficient to restore the loss or damage without negative impact on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

NRG believes that the insurance program that is presently in effect for NRG after its acquisition of Texas Genco is consistent with prudent industry practice.

Nuclear

NRG and the other owners of STP maintain nuclear property and nuclear liability insurance coverage as required by law and periodically review available limits and coverage for additional protection. The owners of STP currently maintain \$2.75 billion in property damage insurance coverage, which is above the legally required minimum. STPNOC currently carries accidental outage coverage with a 17 week deductible and a six week indemnity at a rate of \$3.5 million per week. This coverage may not be available on commercially renewable terms or may be more expensive in the future and any proceeds from such insurance may not be sufficient to indemnify the owners of STP for their losses. NRG has also purchased additional accidental outage coverage for its ownership percentage in STP. This coverage will provide maximum weekly indemnity of \$1.98 million for 52 weeks and \$1.584 million per week for the next 104 weeks after the 17-week waiting period and six-week indemnity period have been met. These figures are per unit and if more than one unit experiences an outage from the same accident, the weekly indemnity is limited to 80% of the single unit recovery when both units are out of service.

The Price-Anderson Act, as amended by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, requires owners of nuclear power plants in the U.S. to be collectively responsible for retrospective secondary insurance premiums for liability to the public arising from nuclear incidents resulting in claims in excess of the required primary insurance coverage amount of \$300 million per reactor. For such claims in excess of \$300 million per reactor, NRG and the other owners of STP are liable for any single incident, whether it occurs at STP or at another nuclear power plant not owned by it, up to a cap of \$95.8 million per reactor in retrospective premiums for such incident but not to exceed \$15 million per year in each case as adjusted for future inflation. These amounts are assessed per each licensed reactor. STP is a two reactor facility and our liability is capped at 44.0% of these amounts due to our 44.0% interest in STP. The Price-Anderson Act only covers nuclear liability associated with any accident in the course of operation of the nuclear reactor, transportation of nuclear fuel to the reactor site, in the storage of nuclear fuel and waste at the reactor site and the transportation of the spent nuclear fuel and nuclear waste from the nuclear reactor. All other non-nuclear liabilities are not covered. Any substantial retrospective premiums imposed under the Price-Anderson Act or losses not covered by insurance could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Item 1A — Risk Factors Related to NRG Energy, Inc.

Many of our power generation facilities operate, wholly or partially, without long-term power sale agreements.

Many of our facilities operate as “merchant” facilities without long-term power sale agreements, and therefore are exposed to market fluctuations. Without the benefit of long-term power purchase agreements for certain assets, we cannot be sure that we will be able to sell any or all of the power generated by these facilities at commercially attractive rates or that these facilities will be able to operate profitably. This could lead to future impairments of our property, plant and equipment or to the closing of certain of our facilities resulting in economic losses and liabilities, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

Our financial performance may be impacted by future decreases in oil and natural gas prices, significant and unpredictable price fluctuations in the wholesale power markets and other market factors that are beyond our control.

A significant percentage of the company’s domestic revenues is derived from baseload power plants that are fueled by coal. In many of the competitive markets where we operate, the price of power typically is set by marginal cost natural gas-fired and oil-fired power plants that currently have substantially higher variable costs than our solid fuel baseload power plants. The current pricing and cost environment allows our baseload coal generation assets to earn attractive operating margins compared to plants fueled by natural gas and oil. A decrease in oil and natural gas prices could be expected to result in a corresponding decrease in the market price of power but would generally not affect the cost of the solid fuels that we use. This could significantly reduce the operating margins of our baseload generation assets and materially and adversely impact our financial performance.

We sell all or a portion of the energy, capacity and other products from many of our facilities to wholesale power markets, including energy markets operated by independent system operators, or ISOs, or regional transmission organizations, as well as wholesale purchasers. We are generally not entitled to traditional cost-based regulation, therefore we sell electric generation capacity, power and ancillary services to wholesale purchasers at prices determined by the market. As a result, we are not guaranteed any rate of return on our capital investments through mandated rates, and our revenues and results of operations depend upon current and forward market prices for power.

Market prices for power, generation capacity and ancillary services tend to fluctuate substantially. Unlike most other commodities, electric power can only be stored on a very limited basis and generally must be produced concurrently with its use. As a result, power prices are subject to significant volatility from supply and demand imbalances, especially in the day-ahead and spot markets. Long-term and short-term power prices may also fluctuate substantially due to other factors outside of our control, including:

- increases and decreases in generation capacity in our markets, including the addition of new supplies of power from existing competitors or new market entrants as a result of the development of new generation plants, expansion of existing plants or additional transmission capacity;
- changes in power transmission or fuel transportation capacity constraints or inefficiencies;
- electric supply disruptions, including plant outages and transmission disruptions;
- weather conditions;
- changes in the demand for power or in patterns of power usage, including the potential development of demand-side management tools and practices;
- availability of competitively priced alternative power sources;
- development of new fuels and new technologies for the production of power;
- natural disasters, wars, embargoes, terrorist attacks and other catastrophic events;

- regulations and actions of the ISOs; and
- federal and state power market and environmental regulation and legislation.

These factors have caused our quarterly operating results to fluctuate in the past and will continue to cause them to do so in the future.

Our costs, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows could be adversely impacted by disruption of our fuel supplies.

We rely on coal, oil and natural gas to fuel our power generation facilities. Delivery of these fuels to our facilities is dependent upon the continuing financial viability of contractual counterparties as well as upon the infrastructure (including rail lines, rail cars, barge facilities, roadways, and natural gas pipelines) available to serve each generation facility. As a result, we are subject to the risks of disruptions or curtailments in the production of power at our generation facilities if a counterparty fails to perform or if there is a disruption in the fuel delivery infrastructure.

The company has sold forward a substantial part of its baseload power in order to lock in long-term prices that it deemed to be favorable at the time it entered into the forward sale contracts. In order to hedge our obligations under these forward power sales contracts, we have entered into long-term and short-term contracts for the purchase and delivery of fuel. Many of our forward power sales contracts do not allow us to pass through changes in fuel costs or discharge the company's power sale obligations in the case of a disruption in fuel supply due to force majeure events or the default of a fuel supplier or transporter. Disruptions in our fuel supplies may therefore require us to find alternative fuel sources at higher costs, to find other sources of power to deliver to counterparties at higher cost, or to pay damages to counterparties for failure to deliver power as contracted. Any such event could have a material adverse effect on our financial performance.

We also buy significant quantities of fuel on a short-term or spot market basis. Prices for all of our fuels fluctuate, sometimes rising or falling significantly over a short period. The price we can obtain for the sale of energy may not rise at the same rate, or may not rise at all, to match a rise in fuel or delivery costs. This may have a material adverse effect on our financial performance. Changes in market prices for natural gas, coal and oil may result from the following:

- weather conditions;
- seasonality;
- demand for energy commodities and general economic conditions;
- disruption of electricity, gas or coal transmission or transportation, infrastructure or other constraints or inefficiencies;
- additional generating capacity;
- availability of competitively priced alternative energy sources;
- availability and levels of storage and inventory for fuel stocks;
- natural gas, crude oil, refined products and coal production levels;
- the creditworthiness or bankruptcy or other financial distress of market participants;
- changes in market liquidity;
- natural disasters, wars, embargoes, acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events;
- federal, state and foreign governmental regulation and legislation; and
- our creditworthiness and liquidity and willingness of fuel suppliers/transporters to do business with us.

Our plant operating characteristics and equipment, particularly at our coal-fired plants, often dictate the specific fuel quality to be combusted. The availability and price of specific fuel qualities may vary due to

supplier financial or operational disruptions, transportation disruptions and force majeure. At times, coal of specific quality may not be available at any price, or we may not be able to transport such coal to our facilities on a timely basis. In such case, we may not be able to run a coal facility even if it would be profitable. Operating a coal facility with lesser quality coal can lead to emission or operating problems. If we had sold forward the power from such a coal facility, we could be required to supply or purchase power from alternate sources, perhaps at a loss. This could have a material adverse impact on the financial results of specific plants and on our results of operations.

There may be periods when we will not be able to meet our commitments under our forward sales obligations at a reasonable cost or at all.

A substantial portion of the output from NRG's units is sold forward under fixed price power sales contracts through 2010, and we also sell forward the output from our intermediate and peaking facilities when we deem it commercially advantageous to do so. Because our obligations under most of these agreements are not contingent on a unit being available to generate power, we are generally required to deliver power to the buyer, even in the event of a plant outage, fuel supply disruption or a reduction in the available capacity of the unit. To the extent that we do not have sufficient lower cost capacity to meet our commitments under our forward sales obligations, we would be required to supply replacement power either by running our other, higher cost power plants or by obtaining power from third-party sources at market prices that could substantially exceed the contract price. If we failed to deliver the contracted power, then we would be required to pay the difference between the market price at the delivery point and the contract price, and the amount of such payments could be substantial.

In NRG's South Central region, NRG has long-term contracts with rural cooperatives that require it to serve all of the cooperatives' requirements at prices that generally reflect the costs of coal-fired generation. At times, the output from NRG's coal-fired Big Cajun II facility is inadequate to serve these obligations, and when that happens NRG typically purchases power from other power producers, often at a loss. NRG's financial returns from its South Central region are likely to deteriorate over time as the rural cooperatives grow their customer bases, unless NRG is able to amend or renegotiate its contracts with the cooperatives or add generating capacity.

Our trading operations and the use of hedging agreements could result in financial losses that negatively impact our results of operations.

We enter into hedging agreements, including contracts to purchase or sell commodities at future dates and at fixed prices, in order to manage the commodity price risks inherent in our power generation operations. These activities, although intended to mitigate price volatility, expose us to other risks. When we sell power forward, we give up the opportunity to sell power at higher prices in the future, which not only may result in lost opportunity costs but also may require us to post significant amounts of cash collateral or other credit support to our counterparties. Further, if the values of the financial contracts change in a manner we do not anticipate, or if a counterparty fails to perform under a contract, it could harm our business, operating results or financial position.

We do not typically hedge the entire exposure of our operations against commodity price volatility. To the extent we do not hedge against commodity price volatility, our results of operations and financial position may be improved or diminished based upon movement in commodity prices.

We may engage in trading activities, including the trading of power, fuel and emissions credits that are not directly related to the operation of our generation facilities or the management of related risks. These trading activities take place in volatile markets and some of these trades could be characterized as speculative. We would expect to settle these trades financially rather than through the production of power or the delivery of fuel. This trading activity may expose us to the risk of significant financial losses which could have a material adverse effect on our business and financial condition.

We may not have sufficient liquidity to hedge market risks effectively.

We are exposed to market risks through our power marketing business, which involves the sale of energy, capacity and related products and the purchase and sale of fuel, transmission services and emission allowances. These market risks include, among other risks, volatility arising from location and timing differences that may be associated with buying and transporting fuel, converting fuel into energy and delivering the energy to a buyer.

We undertake these marketing activities through agreements with various counterparties. Many of our agreements with counterparties include provisions that require us to provide guarantees, offset of netting arrangements, letters of credit, a second lien on assets and/or cash collateral to protect the counterparties against the risk of our default or insolvency. The amount of such credit support that must be provided typically is based on the difference between the price of the commodity in a given contract and the market price of the commodity. Significant movements in market prices can result in our being required to provide cash collateral and letters of credit in very large amounts. The effectiveness of our strategy may be dependent on the amount of collateral available to enter into or maintain these contracts, and liquidity requirements may be greater than we anticipate or are able to meet. Without a sufficient amount of working capital to post as collateral in support of performance guarantees or as cash margin, we may not be able to manage price volatility effectively or to implement our strategy. An increase in demands from our counterparties to post letters of credit or cash collateral may negatively affect our liquidity position and financial condition.

Further, if our facilities experience unplanned outages, we may be required to procure replacement power at spot market prices in order to fulfill contractual commitments. Without adequate liquidity to post margin and collateral requirements, we may be exposed to significant losses, may miss significant opportunities, and may have increased exposure to the volatility of spot markets.

The accounting for our hedging activities may increase the volatility in our quarterly and annual financial results.

We engage in commodity-related marketing and price-risk management activities in order to economically hedge our exposure to market risk with respect to:

- electricity sales from our generation assets;
- fuel utilized by those assets; and
- emission allowances.

We generally attempt to balance our fixed-price physical and financial purchases and sales commitments in terms of contract volumes and the timing of performance and delivery obligations, through the use of financial and physical derivative contracts. These derivatives are accounted for in accordance with SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," as amended by SFAS No. 137, SFAS No. 138 and SFAS No. 149. SFAS No. 133 requires us to record all derivatives on the balance sheet at fair value with changes in the fair value resulting from fluctuations in the underlying commodity prices immediately recognized in earnings, unless the derivative qualifies for hedge accounting treatment. Whether a derivative qualifies for hedge accounting depends upon it meeting specific criteria used to determine if hedge accounting is and will remain appropriate for the term of the derivative. Economic hedges will not necessarily qualify for hedge accounting treatment. As a result, we are unable to predict the impact that our risk management decisions may have on our quarterly and annual operating results.

Competition in wholesale power markets may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, cash flows and the market value of our assets.

We have numerous competitors in all aspects of our business, and additional competitors may enter the industry. Because many of our facilities are old, newer plants owned by our competitors are often more efficient than our aging plants, which may put some of our plants at a competitive disadvantage to the extent

our competitors are able to consume the same fuel as we consume at those plants. Over time, our plants may be squeezed out of their markets, or may be unable to compete with these more efficient plants.

In our power marketing and commercial operations, we compete on the basis of our relative skills, financial position and access to capital with other providers of electric energy in the procurement of fuel and transportation services, and the sale of capacity, energy and related products. In order to compete successfully, we seek to aggregate fuel supplies at competitive prices from different sources and locations and to efficiently utilize transportation services from third-party pipelines, railways and other fuel transporters and transmission services from electric utilities.

Other companies with which we compete may have greater liquidity, access to credit and other financial resources, lower cost structures, more effective risk management policies and procedures, greater ability to incur losses, longer-standing relationships with customers, greater potential for profitability from ancillary services or greater flexibility in the timing of their sale of generation capacity and ancillary services than we do.

Our competitors may be able to respond more quickly to new laws or regulations or emerging technologies, or to devote greater resources to the construction, expansion or refurbishment of their power generation facilities than we can. In addition, current and potential competitors may make strategic acquisitions or establish cooperative relationships among themselves or with third parties. Accordingly, it is possible that new competitors or alliances among current and new competitors may emerge and rapidly gain significant market share. There can be no assurance that we will be able to compete successfully against current and future competitors, and any failure to do so would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flow.

Operation of power generation facilities involves significant risks that could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and results of operations.

The ongoing operation of our facilities involves risks that include the breakdown or failure of equipment or processes, performance below expected levels of output or efficiency and the inability to transport our product to our customers in an efficient manner due to a lack of transmission capacity. Unplanned outages of generating units, including extensions of scheduled outages due to mechanical failures or other problems occur from time to time and are an inherent risk of our business. Unplanned outages typically increase our operation and maintenance expenses and may reduce our revenues as a result of selling fewer MWh or require us to incur significant costs as a result of running one of our higher cost units or obtaining replacement power from third parties in the open market to satisfy our forward power sales obligations. Our inability to operate our plants efficiently, manage capital expenditures and costs, and generate earnings and cash flow from our asset-based businesses in relation to our debt and other obligations could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

While we maintain insurance, obtain warranties from vendors and obligate contractors to meet certain performance levels, the proceeds of such insurance, warranties or performance guarantees may not be adequate to cover our lost revenues, increased expenses or liquidated damages payments should we experience equipment breakdown or non-performance by contractors or vendors.

Maintenance, expansion and refurbishment of power generation facilities involve significant risks that could result in unplanned power outages or reduced output and could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and results of operations.

Many of our facilities are old and are likely to require periodic upgrading and improvement. Any unexpected failure, including failure associated with breakdowns, forced outages or any unanticipated capital expenditures could result in reduced profitability.

We cannot be certain of the level of capital expenditures that will be required due to changing environmental and safety laws and regulations (including changes in the interpretation or enforcement thereof), needed facility repairs and unexpected events (such as natural disasters or terrorist attacks). The

unexpected requirement of large capital expenditures could have a material adverse effect on our financial performance and condition.

If we make any major modifications to our power generation facilities, we may be required to install the best available control technology or to achieve the lowest achievable emissions rate, as such terms are defined under the new source review provisions of the federal Clean Air Act. Any such modifications would likely result in substantial additional capital expenditures.

We may also choose to undertake the repowering, refurbishment or upgrade of current facilities based on our assessment that such activity will provide adequate financial returns. Such projects often require several years of development and capital expenditures before commencement of commercial operations, and key assumptions underpinning a decision to make such an investment may prove incorrect, including assumptions regarding construction costs, timing, available financing and future fuel and power prices. The construction, expansion, modification and refurbishment of power generation facilities involve many additional risks, including:

- delays in obtaining necessary permits and licenses;
- environmental remediation of soil or groundwater at contaminated sites;
- interruptions to dispatch at our facilities;
- supply interruptions;
- work stoppages;
- labor disputes;
- weather interferences;
- unforeseen engineering, environmental and geological problems; and
- unanticipated cost overruns.

Any of these risks could cause our financial returns on new investments to be lower than expected, or could cause us to operate below expected capacity or availability levels, which could result in lost revenues, increased expenses, higher maintenance costs and penalties.

Supplier and/or customer concentration at certain of our facilities may expose us to significant financial credit or performance risks.

We often rely on a single contracted supplier or a small number of suppliers for the provision of fuel, transportation of fuel and other services required for the operation of certain of our facilities. If these suppliers cannot perform, we utilize the marketplace to provide these services. There can be no assurance that the marketplace can provide these services.

At times, we rely on a single customer or a few customers to purchase all or a significant portion of a facility's output, in some cases under long-term agreements that account for a substantial percentage of the anticipated revenue from a given facility. We have hedged a portion of our exposure to power price fluctuations through forward fixed price power sales and natural gas price swap agreements. Counterparties to these agreements may breach or may be unable to perform their obligations. We may not be able to enter into replacement agreements on terms as favorable as our existing agreements, or at all. If we were unable to enter into replacement power purchase agreements, we would sell our plants' power at market prices. If we were unable to enter into replacement fuel or fuel transportation purchase agreements, we would seek to purchase our plants' fuel requirements at market prices, exposing us to market price volatility and the risk that fuel and transportation may not be available during certain periods at any price.

In the past several years, a substantial number of companies, some of which serve as our counterparties from time to time, have experienced downgrades in their credit ratings. The failure of any supplier or customer to fulfill its contractual obligations to us could have a material adverse effect on our financial results.

Consequently, the financial performance of our facilities is dependent on the credit quality of, and continued performance by, suppliers and customers.

We rely on power transmission facilities that we do not own or control and are subject to transmission constraints within a number of our core regions. If these facilities fail to provide us with adequate transmission capacity, we may be restricted in our ability to deliver wholesale electric power to our customers and we may either incur additional costs or forego revenues. Conversely, improvements to certain transmission systems could also reduce revenues.

We depend on transmission facilities owned and operated by others to deliver the wholesale power we sell from our power generation plants to our customers. If transmission is disrupted, or if the transmission capacity infrastructure is inadequate, our ability to sell and deliver wholesale power may be adversely impacted. If a region's power transmission infrastructure is inadequate, our recovery of wholesale costs and profits may be limited. If restrictive transmission price regulation is imposed, the transmission companies may not have sufficient incentive to invest in expansion of transmission infrastructure. We also cannot predict whether transmission facilities will be expanded in specific markets to accommodate competitive access to those markets.

In addition, in certain of the markets in which we operate, energy transmission congestion may occur and we may be deemed responsible for congestion costs if we schedule delivery of power between congestion zones during times when congestion occurs between the zones. If we are liable for congestion costs, our financial results could be adversely affected.

In the California ISO, New York ISO and New England ISO markets, the company will have a significant amount of generation located in load pockets making that generation valuable, particularly with respect to maintaining the reliability of the transmission grid. Expansion of transmission systems to reduce or eliminate these load pockets could negatively impact the value or profitability of our existing facilities in these areas.

Because we own less than a majority of some of our project investments, we cannot exercise complete control over their operations.

We have limited control over the operation of some project investments and joint ventures because our investments are in projects where we beneficially own less than a majority of the ownership interests. We seek to exert a degree of influence with respect to the management and operation of projects in which we own less than a majority of the ownership interests by negotiating to obtain positions on management committees or to receive certain limited governance rights, such as rights to veto significant actions. However, we may not always succeed in such negotiations. We may be dependent on our co-venturers to operate such projects. Our co-venturers may not have the level of experience, technical expertise, human resources management and other attributes necessary to operate these projects optimally. The approval of co-venturers also may be required for us to receive distributions of funds from projects or to transfer our interest in projects.

Future acquisition activities may have adverse effects.

We may seek to acquire additional companies or assets in our industry. The acquisition of power generation companies and assets is subject to substantial risks, including the failure to identify material problems during due diligence, the risk of over-paying for assets and the inability to arrange financing for an acquisition as may be required or desired. Further, the integration and consolidation of acquisitions requires substantial human, financial and other resources and, ultimately, our acquisitions may not be successfully integrated. There can be no assurances that any future acquisitions will perform as expected or that the returns from such acquisitions will support the indebtedness incurred to acquire them or the capital expenditures needed to develop them.

Our operations are subject to hazards customary to the power generation industry. We may not have adequate insurance to cover all of these hazards.

Power generation involves hazardous activities, including acquiring, transporting and unloading fuel, operating large pieces of rotating equipment and delivering electricity to transmission and distribution systems. In addition to natural risks such as earthquake, flood, lightning, hurricane and wind, other hazards, such as fire, explosion, structural collapse and machinery failure are inherent risks in our operations. These and other hazards can cause significant personal injury or loss of life, severe damage to and destruction of property, plant and equipment, contamination of, or damage to, the environment and suspension of operations. The occurrence of any one of these events may result in our being named as a defendant in lawsuits asserting claims for substantial damages, including for environmental cleanup costs, personal injury and property damage and fines and/or penalties. We maintain an amount of insurance protection that we consider adequate, but we cannot assure you that our insurance will be sufficient or effective under all circumstances and against all hazards or liabilities to which we may be subject. A successful claim for which we are not fully insured could hurt our financial results and materially harm our financial condition. Further, due to rising insurance costs and changes in the insurance markets, we cannot assure you that insurance coverage will continue to be available at all or at rates or on terms similar to those presently available to us. Any losses not covered by insurance could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Our business is subject to substantial governmental regulation and may be adversely affected by liability under, or any future inability to comply with, existing or future regulations or requirements.

Our business is subject to extensive foreign, federal, state and local laws and regulation. Compliance with the requirements under these various regulatory regimes may cause us to incur significant additional costs and failure to comply with such requirements could result in the shutdown of the non-complying facility, the imposition of liens, fines and/or civil or criminal liability.

Public utilities under the Federal Power Act, or FPA, are required to obtain the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's, or FERC's, acceptance of their rate schedules for wholesale sales of electricity. All of NRG's non-qualifying facility generating companies and power marketing affiliates in the United States make sales of electricity in interstate commerce and are public utilities for purposes of the FPA. FERC has granted each of NRG's generating and power marketing companies the authority to sell electricity at market-based rates. The FERC's orders that grant NRG's generating and power marketing companies market-based rate authority reserve the right to revoke or revise that authority if FERC subsequently determines that NRG can exercise market power in transmission or generation, create barriers to entry or engage in abusive affiliate transactions. In addition, NRG's market-based sales are subject to certain market behavior rules and, if any of NRG's generating and power marketing companies were deemed to have violated one of those rules, they are subject to potential disgorgement of profits associated with the violation and/or suspension or revocation of their market-based rate authority. If NRG's generating and power marketing companies were to lose their market-based rate authority, such companies would be required to obtain FERC's acceptance of a cost-of-service rate schedule and would become subject to the accounting, record-keeping and reporting requirements that are imposed on utilities with cost-based rate schedules. This could have an adverse effect on the rates NRG charges for power from its facilities.

We are also affected by changes to market rules, tariffs, changes in market structures, changes in administrative fee allocations and changes in market bidding rules that occur in the existing ISOs. The ISOs that oversee most of the wholesale power markets impose, and in the future may continue to impose, price limitations, offer caps, and other mechanisms to address some of the volatility and the potential exercise of market power in these markets. These types of price limitations and other regulatory mechanisms may adversely affect the profitability of our generation facilities that sell energy and capacity into the wholesale power markets. In addition, the regulatory and legislative changes that have recently been enacted at the federal level and in a number of states in an effort to promote competition are novel and untested in many respects. These new approaches to the sale of electric power have very short operating histories, and it is not yet clear how they will operate in times of market stress or pressure, given the extreme volatility and lack of

meaningful long-term price history in many of these markets and the imposition of price limitations by independent system operators.

Our ownership interest in a nuclear power facility subjects us to regulations, costs and liabilities uniquely associated with these types of facilities.

Under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, or AEA, operation of STP, of which we indirectly own a 44.0% interest, is subject to regulation by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or NRC. Such regulation includes licensing, inspection, enforcement, testing, evaluation and modification of all aspects of nuclear reactor power plant design and operation, environmental and safety performance, technical and financial qualifications, decommissioning funding assurance and transfer and foreign ownership restrictions. Our 44.0% share of the output of STP represents approximately 1,101 MW of generation capacity.

There are unique risks to owning and operating a nuclear power facility. These include liabilities related to the handling, treatment, storage, disposal, transport, release and use of radioactive materials, particularly with respect to spent nuclear fuel, and uncertainties regarding the ultimate, and potential exposure to, technical and financial risks associated with modifying or decommissioning a nuclear facility. The NRC could require the shutdown of the plant for safety reasons or refuse to permit restart of the unit after unplanned or planned outages. New or amended NRC safety and regulatory requirements may give rise to additional operation and maintenance costs and capital expenditures. STP may be obligated to continue storing spent nuclear fuel if the Department of Energy continues to fail to meet its contractual obligations to STP made pursuant to the U.S. Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 to accept and dispose of STP's spent nuclear fuel. See "Business — Environmental Matters — U.S. Federal Environmental Initiatives — Nuclear Waste." Costs associated with these risks could be substantial and have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition or cash flow. In addition, to the extent that all or a part of STP is required by the NRC to permanently or temporarily shut down or modify its operations, or is otherwise subject to a forced outage, NRG may incur additional costs to the extent it is obligated to provide power from more expensive alternative sources — either our own plants, third party generators or the ERCOT — to cover our then existing forward sale obligations. Such shutdown or modification could also lead to substantial costs related to the storage and disposal of radioactive materials and spent nuclear fuel.

NRG and the other owners of STP maintain nuclear property and nuclear liability insurance coverage as required by law. The Price-Anderson Act, as amended by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, requires owners of nuclear power plants in the United States to be collectively responsible for retrospective secondary insurance premiums for liability to the public arising from nuclear incidents resulting in claims in excess of the required primary insurance coverage amount of \$300 million per reactor. The Price-Anderson Act only covers nuclear liability associated with any accident in the course of operation of the nuclear reactor, transportation of nuclear fuel to the reactor site, in the storage of nuclear fuel and waste at the reactor site and the transportation of the spent nuclear fuel and nuclear waste from the nuclear reactor. All other non-nuclear liabilities are not covered. Any substantial retrospective premiums imposed under the Price-Anderson Act or losses not covered by insurance could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

We are subject to environmental laws and regulations that impose extensive and increasingly stringent requirements on our ongoing operations, as well as potentially substantial liabilities arising out of environmental contamination. These environmental requirements and liabilities could adversely impact our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

Our business is subject to the environmental laws and regulations of foreign, federal, state and local authorities. We must comply with numerous environmental laws and regulations and obtain numerous governmental permits and approvals to operate our plants. If we fail to comply with any environmental requirements that apply to our operations, we could be subject to administrative, civil and/or criminal liability and fines, and regulatory agencies could take other actions seeking to curtail our operations. In addition, when new requirements take effect or when existing environmental requirements are revised, reinterpreted or subject to changing enforcement policies, our business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows could be adversely affected.

Environmental laws and regulations have generally become more stringent over time, and we expect this trend to continue. In particular, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or USEPA, has recently promulgated regulations requiring additional reductions in nitrogen oxides, or NO_x and sulfur dioxide, or SO₂, emissions, commencing in 2009 and 2010 respectively, and has also promulgated regulations requiring reductions in mercury emissions from coal-fired electric generating units, commencing in 2010 with more substantial reductions in 2018. These regulatory programs are currently subject to litigation and reconsideration by the USEPA, which could affect the timing of our future capital projects. Moreover, certain of the states in which we operate have promulgated air pollution control regulations which are more stringent than existing and proposed federal regulations. Ongoing public concerns about emissions of SO₂, NO_x, mercury and carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from power plants have resulted in proposed laws and regulations at the federal, state and regional levels that, if they were to take effect substantially as proposed, would likely apply to our operations. For example, we could incur substantial costs pursuant to the proposed multi-state carbon cap-and-trade program known as the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, or RGGI, which would apply to the facilities in our Northeast region. A model rule for implementation of RGGI is expected to be released within the next few months.

Significant capital expenditures may be required to keep our facilities compliant with environmental laws and regulations, and if it is not economical to make those capital expenditures then we may need to retire or mothball facilities, or restrict or modify our operations to comply with more stringent standards.

Certain environmental laws impose strict, joint and several liability for costs required to clean up and restore sites where hazardous substances have been disposed or otherwise released. We are generally responsible for all liabilities associated with the environmental condition of our power generation plants, including any soil or groundwater contamination that may be present, regardless of when the liabilities arose and whether the liabilities are known or unknown, or arose from the activities of our predecessors or third parties. We are currently subject to remediation obligations at a number of our facilities.

The value of our assets is subject to the nature and extent of decommissioning and remediation obligations applicable to us.

Our facilities and related properties may become subject to decommissioning and/or site remediation obligations that may require material unplanned expenditures or otherwise materially affect the value of those assets. The closure or modification of any of our facilities could lead to substantial liabilities, including related to the cleanup of any contamination that occurred during the facility's operation. While we believe that we meet, or are performing, all site remediation obligations currently applicable to our assets (including through the provision of various forms of financial assurance at certain facilities at which we are not currently required to perform remediation), more onerous obligations often apply to sites where a plant is to be dismantled, which could negatively affect our ability to economically undertake power redevelopments or alternate uses at existing power plant sites. Further, laws and regulations may change to impose material additional decommissioning and remediation obligations on us in the future, negatively impacting the value of our assets and/or our ability to undertake redevelopment projects.

Our business, financial condition and results of operations could be adversely impacted by strikes or work stoppages by our unionized employees.

As of December 31, 2005, approximately 46.0% of the Company's employees at its U.S. generation plants would have been covered by collective bargaining agreements. In the event that our union employees strike, participate in a work stoppage or slowdown or engage in other forms of labor strife or disruption, we would be responsible for procuring replacement labor or we could experience reduced power generation or outages. Our ability to procure such labor is uncertain. Strikes, work stoppages or the inability to negotiate future collective bargaining agreements on favorable terms could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Changes in technology may impair the value of our power plants.

Research and development activities are ongoing to provide alternative and more efficient technologies to produce power, including fuel cells, clean coal and coal gasification, micro-turbines, photovoltaic (solar) cells and improvements in traditional technologies and equipment, such as more efficient gas turbines. Advances in these or other technologies could reduce the costs of power production to a level below what we have currently forecasted, which could adversely affect our revenue, results of operations or competitive position.

Acts of terrorism could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Our generation facilities and the facilities of third parties on which they rely may be targets of terrorist activities, as well as events occurring in response to or in connection with them, that could cause environmental repercussions and/or result in full or partial disruption of their ability to generate, transmit, transport or distribute electricity or natural gas. Strategic targets, such as energy-related facilities, may be at greater risk of future terrorist activities than other domestic targets. Any such environmental repercussions or disruption could result in a significant decrease in revenues or significant reconstruction or remediation costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Our international investments are subject to additional risks that our U.S. investments do not have.

We have investments in power projects in Australia, Germany and Brazil. International investments are subject to risks and uncertainties relating to the political, social and economic structures of the countries in which we invest. Risks specifically related to our investments in international projects may include:

- fluctuations in currency valuation;
- currency inconvertibility;
- expropriation and confiscatory taxation;
- restrictions on the repatriation of capital; and
- approval requirements and governmental policies limiting returns to foreign investors.

Our plants are the subject of a number of lawsuits filed by individuals who claim injury due to exposure to asbestos while working at certain of our facilities.

Many of our plants have been subject to personal injury claims arising out of alleged exposure to asbestos. Most of the claimants who have brought such claims have been third-party workers who participated in the construction, renovation or repair of various industrial plants, including power plants. While many of the claimants have never worked at or near our plants, some of the claimants have worked at locations owned by us. While we have been dismissed from many of these lawsuits without having to make any payment to claimants, we have incurred and expect to continue to incur costs associated with these claims. We are also subject to claims for asbestos exposure in certain of its facilities, as well as claims for indemnity from previous owners of those facilities. We defend against these claims aggressively, and, thus, we have incurred and expect to continue to incur defense costs as a result of such claims. For further discussion of such claims, see “Business — Legal Proceedings.” If asbestos-related claims against us rise significantly or if insurance currently available for contribution to the payment of asbestos liabilities becomes unavailable (through insurer insolvencies, coverage disputes, changes in law or otherwise), asbestos liabilities could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

Our level of indebtedness could adversely affect our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations, expose us to the risk of increased interest rates and limit our ability to react to changes in the economy or our industry.

Our substantial debt could have important consequences, including:

- increasing our vulnerability to general economic and industry conditions;
- requiring a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to be dedicated to the payment of principal and interest on our indebtedness, therefore reducing our ability to pay dividends to holders of our preferred or common stock or to use our cash flow to fund our operations, capital expenditures and future business opportunities;
- limiting our ability to enter into long-term power sales or fuel purchases which require credit support;
- exposing us to the risk of increased interest rates because certain of our borrowings, including borrowings under our new senior secured credit facility are at variable rates of interest;
- making it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to our notes;
- placing us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt;
- limiting our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital including collateral postings, capital expenditures, debt service requirements, acquisitions and general corporate or other purposes; and
- limiting our ability to adjust to changing market conditions and placing us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors who have less debt.

The indentures for the new notes and our new senior secured credit facility contain financial and other restrictive covenants that may limit our ability to engage in activities that may be in our long-term best interests. Our failure to comply with those covenants could result in an event of default which, if not cured or waived, could result in the acceleration of all of our borrowed indebtedness.

In addition, our ability to arrange financing, either at the corporate level or at a non-recourse project-level subsidiary, and the costs of such capital are dependent on numerous factors, including:

- general economic and capital market conditions;
- credit availability from banks and other financial institutions;
- investor confidence in us, our partners and the regional wholesale power markets;
- our financial performance and the financial performance of our subsidiaries;
- our levels of indebtedness and compliance with covenants in debt agreements;
- maintenance of acceptable credit ratings;
- cash flow; and
- provisions of tax and securities laws that may impact raising capital.

We may not be successful in obtaining additional capital for these or other reasons. The failure to obtain additional capital from time to time may have a material adverse effect on our business and operations.

We may not be able to realize the anticipated benefits from the Texas Genco Acquisition.

The success of the Acquisition will depend in part on NRG's ability to consolidate and effectively integrate the Texas Genco assets, operations and employees into NRG. The integration will require substantial time and attention from our management. If the integration takes longer or is more complex or expensive than anticipated, or if we cannot operate our combined business as effectively as we anticipate, our operating performance and profitability could be materially adversely affected.

The Texas Genco power generation assets operate in the ERCOT market, a market in which NRG did not operate before the Acquisition. Accordingly, we are dependent upon the managers and employees who were in place at Texas Genco to manage those assets, and the loss of these key managers or employees could adversely affect our business.

In addition, as a result of the Acquisition, we have assumed all of Texas Genco's liabilities. After the Acquisition, we may learn additional information about Texas Genco's business that adversely affects us, such as unknown or contingent liabilities, issues relating to internal controls over financial reporting and issues relating to compliance with applicable laws.

Because the historical financial information may not be representative of our results as a combined company or capital structure after the Acquisition, and NRG's and Texas Genco's historical financial information are not comparable to their current financial information, you have limited financial information on which to evaluate us, NRG and Texas Genco.

NRG's financial statements prior to December 5, 2003 are not comparable to its financial statements after that date. As a result of NRG's emergence from bankruptcy, it is operating its business with a new capital structure, and is subject to Fresh Start reporting requirements prescribed by generally accepted accounting principles in the United States. As required by Fresh Start reporting, assets and liabilities as of December 6, 2003 were recorded at fair value, with the enterprise value being determined in connection with the reorganization.

Texas Genco did not exist prior to July 19, 2004, and Texas Genco and its subsidiaries had no operations and no material activities until December 15, 2004 when Texas Genco acquired its gas and coal-fired assets. Consequently, Texas Genco's historical financial information is not comparable to its current financial information.

NRG and Texas Genco have been operating as separate companies prior to the Acquisition. We have had no prior history as a combined entity and our operations have not previously been managed on a combined basis. The historical financial statements may not reflect what our results of operations, financial position and cash flows would have been had we operated on a combined basis and may not be indicative of what our results of operations, financial position and cash flows will be in the future.

Goodwill and/or other intangible assets that we will record in connection with the Acquisition are subject to mandatory annual impairment evaluations and as a result, the combined company could be required to write off some or all of this goodwill and other intangibles, which may adversely affect its financial condition and results of operations.

NRG will account for the Acquisition using the purchase method of accounting. The purchase price for Texas Genco will be allocated to identifiable tangible and intangible assets and assumed liabilities based on estimated fair values at the date of consummation of the Acquisition. Any unallocated portion of the purchase price will be allocated to goodwill. In accordance with Financial Accounting Standard No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," goodwill is not amortized but is reviewed annually or more frequently for impairment and other intangibles are also reviewed at least annually or more frequently, if certain conditions exist, and may be amortized. Any reduction in or impairment of the value of goodwill or other intangible assets will result in a charge against earnings which could materially adversely affect our reported results of operations and financial position in future periods.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward Looking Information

This Annual Report on Form 10-K includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. The words “believes,” “projects,” “anticipates,” “plans,” “expects,” “intends,” “estimates” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause our actual results, performance and achievements, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statement. These factors, risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the factors described under “Risks Related to NRG Energy, Inc.” in this Item 1A and to the following:

- General economic conditions, changes in the wholesale power markets and fluctuations in the cost of fuel or other raw materials;
- Hazards customary to the power production industry and power generation operations such as fuel and electricity price volatility, unusual weather conditions, catastrophic weather-related or other damage to facilities, unscheduled generation outages, maintenance or repairs, unanticipated changes to fossil fuel supply costs or availability due to higher demand, shortages, transportation problems or other developments, environmental incidents, or electric transmission or gas pipeline system constraints and the possibility that we may not have adequate insurance to cover losses as a result of such hazards;
- The effectiveness of NRG’s risk management policies and procedures, and the ability of NRG’s counterparties to satisfy their financial commitments;
- Counterparties’ collateral demands and other factors affecting NRG’s liquidity position and financial condition;
- Our ability to operate its businesses efficiently, manage capital expenditures and costs tightly (including general and administrative expenses), and generate earnings and cash flow from its asset-based businesses in relation to its debt and other obligations; and
- Our potential inability to enter into contracts to sell power and procure fuel on terms and prices acceptable to us;
- The liquidity and competitiveness of wholesale markets for energy commodities;
- Changes in government regulation, including but not limited to the pending changes of market rules, market structures and design, rates, tariffs, environmental laws and regulations and regulatory compliance requirements;
- Price mitigation strategies and other market structures employed by independent system operators, or ISOs, or regional transmission organizations, that result in a failure to adequately compensate our generation units for all of their costs;
- Our ability to borrow additional funds and access capital markets, as well as our substantial indebtedness and the possibility that we may incur additional indebtedness going forward;
- The success of the business following the acquisition of Texas Genco LLC;
- Operating and financial restrictions placed on us contained in the indentures governing our 7.25% and 7.375% unsecured senior notes due 2014 and 2016, respectively, our new senior secured credit facility and in debt and other agreements of certain of our subsidiaries and project affiliates generally; and
- Lack of comparable financial data due to adoption of Fresh Start reporting.

Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they were made, and we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The foregoing review of factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in any forward-looking statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K should not be construed as exhaustive.

Item 1B — Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 2 — Properties

Listed below are descriptions of our interests in facilities, operations and/or projects owned as of December 31, 2005, including such interests owned through Texas Genco. The MW figures provided represent nominal summer net megawatt capacity of power generated as adjusted for the combined company's ownership position excluding capacity from inactive/mothballed units as of December 31, 2005. Prior to the Texas Genco acquisition, our documents referenced the capacity of our generating equipment using Nameplate, or gross capacity (netted to reflect ownership position but inclusive of power which was absorbed internally). The MW numbers included units which are inactive but still owned by NRG. However, with the addition of the Texas assets and to provide a consistent measure across the fleet, NRG will now provide summer net MW capacity for active units only which is more representative of capacity available for sale in the marketplace.

Independent Power Production and Cogeneration Facilities

<u>Name and Location of Facility</u>	<u>Purchaser/Power Market</u>	<u>% Owned</u>	<u>Net Generation Capacity (MW)</u>	<u>Primary Fuel Type</u>
Texas Region:				
W. A. Parish, Thompsons, TX . .	ERCOT	100.00%	2,463	Low Sulfur Coal
Limestone, Jewett, TX	ERCOT	100.00%	1,614	Lignite/Low Sulfur Coal
South Texas Project, Bay City, TX ⁽¹⁾	ERCOT	44.00%	1,101	Nuclear
Cedar Bayou, TX	ERCOT	100.00%	1,498	Natural Gas
T. H. Wharton, Houston, TX . .	ERCOT	100.00%	1,025	Natural Gas
W. A. Parish (Natural gas), Thompsons, TX	ERCOT	100.00%	1,191	Natural Gas
S. R. Bertron, Deer Park, TX . .	ERCOT	100.00%	844	Natural Gas
Greens Bayou, Houston, TX . .	ERCOT	100.00%	760	Natural Gas
San Jacinto, LaPorte, TX	ERCOT	100.00%	162	Natural Gas
Northeast Region:				
Oswego, New York	NYISO	100.00%	1,634	Oil
Arthur Kill, New York	NYISO	100.00%	841	Natural Gas
Middletown, Connecticut	ISO-NE	100.00%	770	Oil
Indian River, Delaware	PJM	100.00%	737	Coal
Astoria Gas Turbines, New York	NYISO	100.00%	553	Natural Gas
Dunkirk, New York	NYISO	100.00%	522	Coal
Huntley, New York	NYISO	100.00%	552	Coal
Montville, Connecticut	ISO-NE	100.00%	497	Oil
Norwalk Harbor, Connecticut	ISO-NE	100.00%	342	Oil
Devon, Connecticut	ISO-NE	100.00%	124	Natural Gas
Vienna, Maryland	PJM	100.00%	170	Oil
Somerset, Massachusetts	ISO-NE	100.00%	127	Coal
Connecticut Jet Power, Connecticut	ISO-NE	100.00%	104	Oil
Conemaugh, Pennsylvania	PJM	3.72%	64	Coal
Keystone, Pennsylvania	PJM	3.72%	63	Coal

<u>Name and Location of Facility</u>	<u>Purchaser/Power Market</u>	<u>% Owned</u>	<u>Net Generation Capacity (MW)</u>	<u>Primary Fuel Type</u>
South Central Region:				
Big Cajun II, Louisiana ⁽²⁾	SERC-Entergy	86.00%	1,489	Coal
Bayou Cove, Louisiana	SERC-Entergy	100.00%	300	Natural Gas
Big Cajun I, Louisiana	SERC-Entergy	100.00%	210	Natural Gas
Big Cajun I, Louisiana	SERC-Entergy	100.00%	220	Natural Gas/Oil
Sterlington, Louisiana	SERC-Entergy	100.00%	176	Natural Gas
Western Region:				
Encina, California	Cal ISO	50.00%	483	Natural Gas
El Segundo Power, California . .	Cal ISO	50.00%	335	Natural Gas
San Diego Combustion Turbines, California	Cal ISO	50.00%	86	Natural Gas
Saguaro Power Co., Nevada . .	WECC	50.00%	46	Natural Gas
Chowchilla, California	Cal ISO	100.00%	49	Natural Gas
Red Bluff, California	Cal ISO	100.00%	45	Natural Gas
Other North America Region:				
Audrain ⁽³⁾	MISO	100.00%	577	Natural Gas
Rockford I, Illinois	PJM	100.00%	310	Natural Gas
Rocky Road Power, Illinois ⁽³⁾	PJM	50.00%	165	Natural Gas
Rockford II, Illinois	PJM	100.00%	160	Natural Gas
Dover, Delaware	PJM	100.00%	104	Natural Gas/Coal
Power Smith Cogeneration, Oklahoma	SPP	6.25%	7	Natural Gas
Ilion, New York ⁽³⁾	NYISO	100.00%	58	Natural Gas
James River, Virginia	SERC — TVA	50.00%	55	Coal
Cadillac, Michigan ⁽³⁾	MISO	50.00%	19	Wood
Paxton Creek Cogeneration, Pennsylvania	PJM	100.00%	12	Natural Gas
Australia Region:				
Flinders, South Australia	South Australian Pool	100.00%	700	Coal
Gladstone Power Station, Queensland	Enertrade/Boyne Smelters	37.50%	605	Coal
Other International Region:				
Schkopau Power Station, Germany	Vattenfall Europe	41.90%	400	Coal
MIBRAG mbH, Germany ⁽⁴⁾ . .	ENVIA/MIBRAG Mines	50.00%	55	Coal
Itiquira Energetica, Brazil	COPEL	99.20%	156	Hydro

(1) For the nature of our interest and various limitations on our interest, please read Item 1 — Business — Texas — Facilities section.

(2) Units 1 and 2 owned 100%, Unit 3 owned 58%

(3) Committed to sell or may sell or dispose of in 2006

(4) Primarily a coal mining facility

Thermal Energy Production and Transmission Facilities and Resource Recovery Facilities

<u>Name and Location of Facility</u>	<u>Year of Acquisition</u>	<u>Generating Capacity⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>% Ownership Interest</u>	<u>Thermal Energy Purchaser/MSW Supplier</u>
NRG Energy Center Minneapolis, MN	1993	Steam: 1,203 mmBtu/hr., (353 MWt) Chilled Water: 41,630 tons (146 MWt)	100%	Approx. 100 steam customers and 47 chilled water customers
NRG Energy Center San Francisco, CA	1999	Steam: 482 mmBtu/Hr. (141 MWt)	100%	Approx. 165 steam customers
NRG Energy Center Harrisburg, PA	2000	Steam: 440 mmBtu/hr. (129 MWt) Chilled water: 2,400 tons (8 MWt)	100%	Approx. 265 steam customers and 3 chilled water customers
NRG Energy Center	1999	Steam: 266 mmBtu/hr. (78 MWt) Chilled water: 12,580 tons (44 MWt)	100%	Approx. 25 steam and 25 chilled water customers
NRG Energy Center San Diego, CA	1997	Chilled water: 7,425 tons (26 MWt)	100%	Approx. 20 chilled water customers
NRG Energy Center St. Paul, MN	1992	Steam: 430 mmBtu/hr. (126 MWt)	100%	Rock-Tenn Company
Camas Power Boiler, Washington	1997	Steam: 200 mm Btu/hr. (59 MWt)	100%	Georgia-Pacific Corp.
NRG Energy Center Dover, DE	2000	Steam: 190 mmBtu/hr. (56 MWt)	100%	Kraft Foods Inc.
NRG Energy Center Oak Park Heights, MN	1992	Steam: 200 mmBtu/Hr. (59 MWt)	100%	Andersen Corp., MN Correctional Facility

(1) Thermal production and transmission capacity is based on 1,000 Btus per pound of steam production or transmission capacity. The unit mmBtu is equal to one million Btus.

Listed below are descriptions of our significant resource recovery assets as of December 31, 2005:

<u>Name and Location of Facility</u>	<u>Date of Acquisition</u>	<u>Processing Capacity⁽¹⁾</u>	<u>% Ownership Interest</u>	<u>MSW Supplier</u>
Newport, MN ⁽¹⁾	1993	MSW: 1,500 tons/day	100%	Ramsey and Washington Counties
Elk River, MN ⁽²⁾	2001	MSW: 1,500 tons/day	85%	Anoka, Hennepin and Sherburne Counties; Tri- County Solid Waste Management Commissioner

(1) The Newport facilities are strictly related to garbage-sorting facilities.

(2) For the Elk River facility, NRG's 85% interest is related strictly to garbage-sorting facilities.

Other Properties

In addition, we own various real property and facilities relating to our generation assets, other vacant real property unrelated to our generation assets, interests in other construction projects in various states of completion and properties not used for operational purposes. We believe we have satisfactory title to our plants and facilities in accordance with standards generally accepted in the electric power industry, subject to exceptions that, in our opinion, would not have a material adverse effect on the use or value of our portfolio.

We lease our corporate offices at 211 Carnegie Center, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 and various other office spaces.

Item 3 — Legal Proceedings

California Electricity and Related Litigation

In re: Wholesale Electricity Antitrust Litigation, MDL 1405, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California. The cases included in this proceeding are as follows:

Pamela R Gordon, on Behalf of Herself and All Others Similarly Situated v Reliant Energy, Inc. et al., Case No. 758487, Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Diego (filed on November 27, 2000). *Ruth Hendricks, On Behalf of Herself and All Others Similarly Situated and On Behalf of the General Public v. Dynegy Power Marketing, Inc. et al.*, Case No. 758565, Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Diego (filed November 29, 2000). *The People of the State of California, by and through San Francisco City Attorney Louise H. Renne v. Dynegy Power Marketing, Inc. et al.*, Case No. 318189, Superior Court of California, San Francisco County (filed January 18, 2001). *Pier 23 Restaurant, A California Partnership, On Behalf of Itself and All Others Similarly Situated v PG&E Energy Trading et al.*, Case No. 318343, Superior Court of California, San Francisco County (filed January 24, 2001). *Sweetwater Authority, et al. v. Dynegy, Inc. et al.*, Case No. 760743, Superior Court of California, County of San Diego (filed January 16, 2001). *Cruz M Bustamante, individually, and Barbara Matthews, individually, and on behalf of the general public and as a representative taxpayer suit, v. Dynegy Inc. et al., inclusive.* Case No. BC249705, Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County (filed May 2, 2001).

NRG Energy is a defendant in all of the above referenced cases. Several of WCP's operating subsidiaries are also defendants in the *Bustamante* case. The cases allege unfair competition, market manipulation and price fixing and all seek treble damages, restitution and injunctive relief. In December 2002, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California found that federal jurisdiction was absent in the district court, and remanded the cases back to state court. A notice of appeal was filed and on December 8, 2004, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed the District Court in most respects. On March 5, 2005, the Ninth Circuit denied a petition for rehearing and thereafter remanded the cases to San Diego Superior Court. NRG was dismissed on July 22, 2005. The remaining defendants including the WCP subsidiaries filed a motion to dismiss based on the filed rate doctrine and federal preemption which was granted on October 3, 2005. Although a judgment of dismissal with prejudice was entered on October 5, 2005, the Plaintiffs filed a notice of appeal on December 2, 2005, with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Where WCP or its subsidiaries are named, Dynegy is defending the named parties pursuant to an indemnification agreement.

Bustamante v. McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., et al., No. BC 235598, California Superior Court, Los Angeles County (filed November 20, 2002, and amended in 2003). This putative class action alleges that the defendants attempted to manipulate gas indexes by reporting false and fraudulent trades. Named defendants in the suit include several of WCP's operating subsidiaries. Dynegy is defending the WCP subsidiaries pursuant to an indemnification agreement. The complaint seeks restitution and disgorgement, civil fines, compensatory and punitive damages, attorneys' fees and declaratory and injunctive relief. Defendants' motion for summary judgment is pending.

Jerry Egger, et al. v. Dynegy, Inc., et al., Case No. 809822, Superior Court of California, San Diego County (filed May 1, 2003). This putative class action alleges violations of California's antitrust law, as well as unlawful and unfair business practices and seeks treble damages, restitution and injunctive relief. The named defendants include WCP and several of its operating subsidiaries. NRG Energy is not named. This case was removed to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, and the defendants have moved to have this case included as Multi-District Litigation along with the above referenced cases. On February 19, 2004, the court stayed the case. Dynegy's counsel is defending Dynegy and WCP and its subsidiaries in this case pursuant to an indemnification agreement. The defendants expect to seek dismissal of this case during 2006.

Texas-Ohio Energy, Inc., on behalf of Itself and all others similarly situated v. Dynegy, Inc. Holding Co., West Coast Power, LLC, et al., Case No. CIV.S-03-2346 DFL GGH, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (filed November 10, 2003). This putative class action alleges violations of the federal Sherman and

Clayton Acts and state antitrust law. In addition to naming WCP and Dynegy, Inc. Holding Co., the complaint names numerous industry participants, as well as “unnamed co-conspirators.” The complaint alleges that defendants conspired to manipulate the spot price and basis differential of natural gas with respect to the California market. The complaint seeks unspecified amounts of damages, including a trebling of plaintiff’s and the putative class’s actual damages. On April 18, 2005, the court granted defendants motion to dismiss based on the filed rate doctrine and federal preemption. On May 17, 2005, Plaintiffs filed a notice of appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Dynegy is defending WCP pursuant to an indemnification agreement.

City of Tacoma, Department of Public Utilities, Light Division, v. American Electric Power Service Corporation, et al., U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington, Case No. C04-5325 RBL (filed June 16, 2004). The complaint names over 50 defendants, including WCP’s four operating subsidiaries and various Dynegy entities. The complaint also names both us and WCP as “Non-Defendant Co-Conspirators.” Plaintiff alleges a conspiracy to violate the federal Sherman Act by withholding power generation from, and/or inflating the apparent demand for power in markets in California and elsewhere. Plaintiff claims damages in excess of \$175 million. After the case was transferred to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California on February 11, 2005, the court granted defendants motion to dismiss the case based on the filed rate doctrine and federal preemption. On March 21, 2005, Plaintiffs filed a notice of appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Dynegy is defending WCP and its subsidiaries pursuant to an indemnification agreement.

Fairhaven Power Company v. Encana Corporation, et al., Case No. CIV-F-04-6256 (OWW/LJO), U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (filed September 22, 2004), *Abelman v. Encana*, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 04-CV-6684 (filed December 13, 2004); *Utility Savings v. Reliant, et al.*, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, (filed November 29, 2004). These putative class actions named WCP and Dynegy Holding Co., Inc. among the numerous defendants. The Complaints alleged violations of the federal Sherman Act, and California’s antitrust and unfair competition law as well as unjust enrichment. The Complaints sought a determination of class action status, a trebling of unspecified damages, statutory, punitive or exemplary damages, restitution, disgorgement, injunctive relief, a constructive trust, and costs and attorneys’ fees. On December 19, 2005, the court granted defendants notice to dismiss based upon the filed rate doctrine and federal preemption. Dynegy is defending WCP pursuant to an indemnification agreement. On February 2, 2006, Dynegy settled the case on behalf of itself and WCP. A motion for approval of this settlement is expected to be filed by the plaintiffs by March 30, 2006.

In Re: Natural Gas Commodity Litigation, Master File No. 03 CV 6186(VM) (AJP), U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York. West Coast Power, or WCP, and Dynegy Marketing and Trade are among numerous defendants accused of manipulating gas index publications and prices in violation of the federal Commodity Exchange Act, or CEA, in the following consolidated cases: *Cornerstone Propane Partners, LP v. Reliant Energy Services, Inc., et al.*, Case No. 03 CV 6186 (S.D.N.Y. filed August 18, 2003); *Calle Gracey v. American Electric Power Co., Inc., et al.*, Case No. 03 CV 7750 (S.D.N.Y. filed Oct. 1, 2003); *Cornerstone Propane Partners, LP v. Coral Energy Resources, LP, et al.*, Case No. 03 CV 8320 (S.D.N.Y. filed Oct. 21, 2003); and *Viola v. Reliant Energy Servs., et al.*, Case No. 03 CV 9039 (S.D.N.Y. filed Nov. 14, 2003). Plaintiffs, in their Amended Consolidated Class Action Complaint dated October 14, 2004, allege that the defendants engaged in a scheme to manipulate and inflate natural gas prices. The plaintiffs seek class action status for their lawsuit, unspecified actual damages for violations of the CEA and costs and attorneys’ fees. On September 30, 2005, the court granted Plaintiffs class action certification. On November 2, 2005, Dynegy entered into a settlement agreement with Plaintiffs that also resolves claims against the WCP subsidiaries. The settlement is awaiting court approval. Dynegy Marketing and Trade is defending WCP in these proceedings pursuant to an indemnification agreement.

ABAG Publicly Owned Energy Resources v. Sempra Energy, et al., Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG04186098, filed November 10, 2004; *Cruz Bustamante v. Williams Energy Services, et al.*, Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. BC285598, filed June 28, 2004; *City & County of San Francisco, et al. v. Sempra Energy, et al.*, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. GIC832539, filed June 8, 2004; *City of San Diego v. Sempra Energy, et al.*, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. GIC839407, filed

December 1, 2004; *County of Alameda v. Sempra Energy*, Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG041282878, filed October 29, 2004; *County of San Diego v. Sempra Energy, et al.*, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. GIC833371, filed July 28, 2004; *County of San Mateo v. Sempra Energy, et al.*, San Mateo County Superior Court, Case No. CIV443882, filed December 23, 2004; *County of Santa Clara v. Sempra Energy, et al.*, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. GIC832538, filed July 8, 2004; *Nurserymen's Exchange, Inc. v. Sempra Energy, et al.*, San Mateo County Superior Court, Case No. CIV442605, filed October 21, 2004; *Older v. Sempra Energy, et al.*, San Diego Superior Court, Case No. GIC835457, filed December 8, 2004; *Owens-Brockway Glass Container, Inc. v. Sempra Energy, et al.*, Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG0412046, filed December 30, 2004; *Sacramento Municipal Utility District v. Reliant Energy Services, Inc.*, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 04AS04689, filed November 19, 2004; *School Project for Utility Rate Reduction v. Sempra Energy, et al.*, Alameda County Superior Court, Case No. RG04180958, filed October 19, 2004; *Tamco, et al. v. Dynegy, Inc., et al.*, San Diego County Superior Court, Case No. GIC840587, filed December 29, 2004; *Utility Savings & Refund Services, LLP v. Reliant Energy Services, Inc., et al.*, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 04-6626, filed November 30, 2004; *Pabco Building Products v. Dynegy et al.*, San Diego Superior Court, Case No. GIC 856187, filed November 22, 2005; *The Board of Trustees of California State University v. Dynegy et al.*, San Diego Superior Court, Case No. GIC 856188, filed November 22, 2005.

The defendants in all of the above referenced cases include WCP and various Dynegy entities. NRG is not a defendant. The Complaints allege that defendants attempted to manipulate natural gas prices in California, and allege violations of California's antitrust law, conspiracy, and unjust enrichment. The relief sought in all of these cases includes treble damages, restitution and injunctive relief. The Complaints assert that WCP is a joint venture between Dynegy and NRG, but that Dynegy Marketing and Trade handled all of the administrative services and commodity related concerns of WCP. The cases are presently being consolidated for coordinated pretrial proceedings in San Diego County Superior Court. Defendants motion to dismiss was denied by the Court on June 22, 2005, and the cases are in discovery. Dynegy is defending WCP pursuant to an indemnification agreement.

California Electricity and Related Litigation Indemnification

On December 27, 2005, NRG entered into a purchase and sale agreement to acquire Dynegy's 50% ownership interest in WCP Holdings to become the sole owner of the WCP power plants. The transaction, which is subject to regulatory approval, is expected to close in the first quarter of 2006. Pursuant to the indemnification agreement in the purchase and sale agreement, in the above referenced cases relating to natural gas, Dynegy is defending WCP and/or its subsidiaries and will be the responsible party for any loss. In the above referenced cases relating to electricity, Dynegy's counsel is representing it and WCP and/or its subsidiaries with Dynegy and WCP each responsible for half of the costs and each party responsible for half of any loss. Where NRG is named as a party in the above referenced electricity cases, it is defending the case, bears its own costs of defense, and is responsible for any loss. Any new cases filed within these three categories of cases would be handled similarly.

NRG Bankruptcy Cap on California Claims

On November 21, 2003, in conjunction with confirmation of the NRG plan of reorganization, we reached an agreement with the Attorney General and the State of California, generally, whereby for purposes of distributions, if any, to be made to the State of California under the NRG plan of reorganization, the liquidated amount of any and all allowed claims shall not exceed \$1.35 billion in the aggregate. The agreement neither affects our right to object to these claims on any and all grounds nor admits any liability whatsoever. We further agreed to waive any objection to the liquidation of these claims in a non-bankruptcy forum having proper jurisdiction. On February 1, 2006, NRG filed with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York a Supplement to Objection to Claims filed by Oscars Photolab, claiming on behalf of Itself and All Other Similarly Stated California Business and Residential Ratepayers. Therein, NRG requested an order disallowing and expunging these proofs of claim.

FERC Proceedings

There are a number of proceedings in which WCP subsidiaries are parties, which are either pending before FERC or on appeal from FERC to various U.S. Courts of Appeal. These cases involve, among other things, allegations of physical withholding, a FERC-established price mitigation plan determining maximum rates for wholesale power transactions in certain spot markets, and the enforceability of, and obligations under, various contracts with, among others, the California Independent System Operator, or CDWR, and the State of California and certain of its agencies and departments. The CDWR claim involves a February 2002 complaint filed by the State of California demanding that FERC abrogate the CDWR contract between the State and subsidiaries of WCP and seeking refunds associated with the revenues collected by WCP from the CDWR. In 2003, FERC rejected the States complaint and subsequently denied rehearing. The State appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit where all briefs were filed and oral argument was held on December 8, 2004. Pursuant to the December 27, 2005 purchase and sale agreement between NRG and Dynegy regarding the WCP power plants, we agreed to indemnify Dynegy with respect to the CDWR claim. However, to the effect any loss incurred is found to have resulted from Dynegy's gross negligence or willful misconduct, then any such loss shall instead be shared evenly between Dynegy and us. The purchase and sale agreement is subject to regulatory approval and is expected to close in the first quarter of 2006.

Consolidated Edison Co. of New York v. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Docket No. 01-1503. Consolidated Edison and others petitioned the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit for review of certain FERC orders in which FERC refused to order a re-determination of prices in the New York Independent System Operator, or NYISO, operating reserve markets for the period January 29, 2000, to March 27, 2000. On November 7, 2003, the Court issued a decision which questioned whether that the NYISO's method of pricing spinning reserves violated the NYISO tariff. The Court also required FERC to determine whether the exclusion from the non-spinning market of a generating facility known as Blenheim-Gilboa and resources located in western New York also constituted a tariff violation and/or whether these exclusions enabled NYISO to use its Temporary Extraordinary Procedure, or TEP, authority to require refunds. On March 4, 2005, FERC issued an order stating that no refunds would be required for the tariff violation associated with the pricing of spinning reserves. In the order, FERC also stated that the exclusion of the Blenheim-Gilboa facility and western reserves from the non-spinning market was not a market flaw and NYISO was correct not to use its TEP authority to revise the prices in this market. A motion for rehearing of the Order was denied by FERC on November 17, 2005. On January 13, 2006, the petitioners filed an appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Based on the November 17, 2005 denial, we now deem the risk of loss to be remote.

Connecticut Light & Power Company v. NRG Power Marketing, Inc., Docket No. 3:01-CV-2373 (AWT), U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut (filed on November 28, 2001). Connecticut Light & Power Company, or CL&P, sought recovery of amounts it claimed it was owed for congestion charges under the terms of an October 29, 1999, contract between the parties. CL&P withheld approximately \$30 million from amounts owed to NRG Power Marketing, Inc., or PMI, and PMI counterclaimed. CL&P filed its motion for summary judgment to which PMI filed a response on March 21, 2003. By reason of the stay issued by the bankruptcy court, the court has not ruled on the pending motion. On November 6, 2003, the parties filed a joint stipulation for relief from the stay in order to allow the proceeding to go forward that was promptly granted. PMI cannot estimate at this time the overall exposure for congestion charges for the full term of the contract.

Connecticut Light & Power Company v. NRG Energy, Inc., Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Docket No. EL03-10-000-Station Service Dispute (filed October 9, 2002); **Binding Arbitration.** On July 1, 1999, Connecticut Light & Power Company, or CL&P, and the Company agreed that we would purchase certain CL&P generating facilities. The transaction closed on December 14, 1999, whereupon NRG Energy took ownership of the facilities. CL&P began billing NRG Energy for station service power and delivery services provided to the facilities and NRG Energy refused to pay asserting that the facilities self-supplied their station service needs. On October 9, 2002, Northeast Utilities Services Company, on behalf of itself and CL&P, filed a complaint at FERC seeking an order requiring NRG Energy to pay for station service and delivery services. On December 20, 2002, FERC issued an Order finding that at times when NRG Energy is

not able to self-supply its station power needs, there is a sale of station power from a third-party and retail charges apply. CL&P renewed its demand for payment which was again refused by NRG Energy. In August 2003, the parties agreed to submit the dispute to binding arbitration. The parties each selected one respective arbitrator. A neutral arbitrator cannot be selected until the party-appointed arbitrators have been given a mutually agreed upon description of the dispute, which has yet to occur. Once the neutral arbitrator is selected, a decision is required within 90 days unless otherwise agreed by the parties. The potential loss inclusive of amounts paid to CL&P and accrued could exceed \$5 million.

New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) v. Stephen L. Johnson, Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Case Nos.03-40846(L) and 03-40848 (CON), U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. In 2000, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, or NYSDEC, issued a NOV to the prior owner of the Huntley and Dunkirk stations. After an unsuccessful challenge to the stations' Title V air quality permits by NYPIRG, it appealed. On October 24, 2005, the Second Circuit held that, during the Title V permitting process for the two stations, the 2000 NOV should have been sufficient for the NYSDEC to have made a finding that the stations were out of compliance. Accordingly, the court stated that the EPA should have objected to the Title V permits on that basis and the permits should have included compliance schedules. On June 3, 2005, the consent decree among NYSDEC, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation and NRG was entered in federal court, settling the substantive issues discussed by the Second Circuit in its decision. NYSDEC is in the process of incorporating the consent decree obligations into the Huntley and Dunkirk Title V permits so as to make them permit conditions, an action we believe is supported by the decision. On January 12, 2006, the NYSDEC, the EPA, and NRG filed individual petitions for rehearing with the Second Circuit. On January 31, 2006, the court denied the petitions for rehearing filed by the NYSDEC and the EPA. NRG's petition for review en banc remains pending.

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation v. Dunkirk Power LLC, NRG Dunkirk Operations, Inc., Huntley Power LLC, NRG Huntley Operations, Inc., Oswego Power LLC and NRG Oswego Operations, Inc., Supreme Court, Erie County, Index No. 1-2000-8681 — Station Service Dispute (filed October 2, 2000). NiMo sought to recover damages less payments received through the date of judgment, as well as additional amounts for electric service provided to the Dunkirk Plant. NiMo claimed that we failed to pay retail tariff amounts for utility services commencing on or about June 11, 1999, and continuing to September 18, 2000, and thereafter. NiMo alleged breach of contract, suit on account, violation of statutory duty, and unjust enrichment claims. On October 8, 2002, a Stipulation and Order was entered staying this action pending resolution by FERC of some or all of the disputes in the action. The potential loss inclusive of amounts paid to NiMo and accrued is approximately \$26 million.

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation v. Huntley Power LLC, NRG Huntley Operations, Inc., NRG Dunkirk Operations, Inc., Dunkirk Power LLC, Oswego Harbor Power LLC, and NRG Oswego Operations, Inc., Case Filed November 26, 2002 in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Docket No. EL 03-27-000. This is the companion action to the above referenced action filed by NiMo at FERC asserting the same claims and legal theories. On November 19, 2004, FERC denied NiMo's petition and ruled that the Huntley, Dunkirk and Oswego plants could net their service station obligations over a 30 calendar day period from the day NRG Energy acquired the facilities. In addition, FERC ruled that neither NiMo nor the New York Public Service Commission could impose a retail delivery charge on the NRG facilities because they are interconnected to transmission and not to distribution. On April 22, 2005, FERC denied NiMo's motion for rehearing and NiMo appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. On May 12, 2005, the court consolidated the appeal with several pending station service disputes involving NiMo.

Itiquira Energetica, S.A. Our Brazilian project company, Itiquira Energetica S.A., the owner of a 156 MW hydro project in Brazil, is in arbitration with the former EPC contractor for the project, Inepar Industria e Construcões, or "Inepar". The dispute was commenced by Itiquira in September of 2002 and pertains to certain matters arising under the former engineering procurement and construction contract between the parties. Itiquira sought Real 140 million and asserted that Inepar breached the contract. Inepar sought Real 39 million and alleged that Itiquira breached the contract. On September 2, 2005, the arbitration panel ruled in favor of Itiquira, awarding it Real 139 million and Inepar Real 4.7 million. Due to interest accrued from the commencement of the arbitration to the award date, Itiquira's award is increased to

approximately Real 227 million (U.S. \$97 million, based on conversion rates as of December 31, 2005). On December 21, 2005, Inepar's request for clarification of the arbitration panels decision was denied. Itiquira has commenced the lengthy process in Brazil to execute on the arbitral award. We are unable to predict the outcome of this execution process.

CFTC Trading Inquiry. On July 1, 2004, the CFTC filed a civil complaint against us in Minnesota federal district court, alleging false reporting of natural gas trades from August 2001 to May 2002, and seeking an injunction against future violations of the Commodity Exchange Act. On July 23, 2004, we filed a motion with the bankruptcy court to enforce the injunction provisions of the NRG plan of reorganization against the CFTC. Thereafter, we filed with the Minnesota federal district court a motion to dismiss. On November 17, 2004, a Bankruptcy Court hearing was held on the CFTC's motion to reinstate its expunged bankruptcy claim, and on our motion to enforce the injunction contained in our plan of reorganization in order to preclude the CFTC from continuing its Minnesota federal court action. On March 16, 2005, the federal district court in Minnesota adopted the magistrate judge's December 6, 2004, report and recommendations and dismissed the case. On May 13, 2005, the CFTC filed a notice of appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and its brief on August 9, 2005. On September 29, 2005, NRG replied and on October 28, 2005, the CFTC filed its reply brief. The parties are awaiting an argument date. The Bankruptcy Court has yet to schedule a hearing or rule on the CFTC's pending motion to reinstate its expunged claim.

Texas Commercial Energy v. TXU Energy, Inc. et al., Case No. 04-40962 U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas — Corpus Christi Division. This lawsuit was filed against us, CenterPoint Energy, Inc., Reliant Energy, Inc., Reliant Electric Solutions, LLC, several other CenterPoint Energy and Reliant Energy subsidiaries, and a number of other participants in the ERCOT market. The plaintiff, a retail electricity provider in the Texas market served by ERCOT, alleged that the defendants conspired to illegally fix and artificially increase the price of electricity in violation of state and federal antitrust laws and committed fraud and negligent misrepresentation. The lawsuit sought damages in excess of \$500 million, exemplary damages, treble damages, interest, costs of suit and attorneys' fees. In June 2004, the court dismissed plaintiff's claims on jurisdictional grounds. In July 2004, the plaintiff filed an appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. The Fifth Circuit affirmed the lower court's decision in June 2005. The plaintiff moved for a rehearing en banc which was subsequently denied. On January 9, 2006, the U.S. Supreme Court denied plaintiff's petition for certiorari thereby ending recourse.

Asbestos Litigation. Several of our plants are the subject of a number of lawsuits filed against numerous defendants by a large number of individuals who claim personal injury due to alleged exposure to asbestos while working at plant sites primarily in Texas. The overwhelming majority of these claimants are third party contractor or sub-contractors who participated in the construction, renovation, or repair of various industrial plants, including power plants. As of December 31, 2005, there were 3,803 claims pending in Texas. For the twelve months ended December 31, 2005, there were 268 claims filed, 146 claims settled, 1,261 claims dismissed or otherwise resolved with no payment, and the average settlement amount was approximately \$3,600. While ultimate financial responsibility for uninsured losses relating to asbestos claims has been assumed by us, CenterPoint Energy has agreed to continue to defend such claims to the extent they are covered by insurance maintained by CenterPoint Energy, subject to reimbursement of the costs of such defense from us. To date, costs of settlement and defense have not been material and a portion of the payments in respect of these claims have been offset by insurance recoveries.

On May 19, 2005, amendments to the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code and other state codes were signed into law by the Governor of Texas. The law will make it more difficult for persons claiming personal injuries due to alleged exposure to asbestos to continue to pursue their claims when there is no medical evidence of an actual physical impairment caused by exposure to asbestos. The law precludes persons whose claims have not been adjudicated by September 1, 2005, from pursuing or advancing their claims until they have produced a report by a board-certified physician of an actual physical impairment caused by exposure to asbestos. In addition, Congress is currently considering the proposed Fairness in Asbestos Injury Resolution Act of 2005, which, if it becomes law, would require asbestos defendants and insurers to make payments into a privately-funded national asbestos compensation fund. Under the bill as currently drafted, any payments made by us would not be offset by any insurance recoveries.

Additional Litigation

In addition to the foregoing, we are parties to other litigation or legal proceedings. See “Market Developments” in the various regions in Item 1 — Business — Power Generation for additional discussion on regulatory legal proceedings.

The Company believes that it has valid defenses to the legal proceedings and investigations described above and intends to defend them vigorously. However, litigation is inherently subject to many uncertainties. There can be no assurance that additional litigation will not be filed against the Company or its subsidiaries in the future asserting similar or different legal theories and seeking similar or different types of damages and relief. Unless specified above, the Company is unable to predict the outcome these legal proceedings and investigations may have or reasonably estimate the scope or amount of any associated costs and potential liabilities. An unfavorable outcome in one or more of these proceedings could have a material impact on the Company’s consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows. The Company also has indemnity rights for some of these proceedings to reimburse the Company for certain legal expenses and to offset certain amounts deemed to be owed in the event of an unfavorable litigation outcome.

Disputed Claims Reserve

As part of the NRG plan of reorganization, we have funded a disputed claims reserve for the satisfaction of certain general unsecured claims that were disputed claims as of the effective date of the plan. Under the terms of the plan, as such claims are resolved, the claimants are paid from the reserve on the same basis as if they had been paid out in the bankruptcy. To the extent the aggregate amount required to be paid on the disputed claims exceeds the amount remaining in the funded claims reserve, we will be obligated to provide additional cash and common stock to satisfy the claims. Any excess funds in the disputed claims reserve will be reallocated to the creditor pool for the pro rata benefit of all allowed claims. The contributed common stock and cash in the reserves is held by an escrow agent to complete the distribution and settlement process. Since we have surrendered control over the common stock and cash provided to the disputed claims reserve, we recognized the issuance of the common stock as of December 6, 2003 and removed the cash amounts from our balance sheet. Similarly, we removed the obligations relevant to the claims from our balance sheet when the common stock was issued and cash contributed.

The face amount of the remaining unresolved claims is approximately \$35 million, plus unresolved claims relating to the California power crisis in 2000-2001 and other claims of indefinite amount, but the Company estimates that the actual amount of these claims, once settled, will be less than \$35 million. Based on these estimates, the Company believes that in order to assure sufficient funds to satisfy all remaining disputed claims the reserve needs to retain approximately \$7 million in cash and approximately 650,000 shares of common stock. The reserve currently holds cash and stock in excess of these amounts, and the Company intends to make a supplemental distribution of the surplus on or about April 1, 2006. The total value of the planned distribution is approximately \$137 million, based on the closing stock price on March 3, 2006, consisting of approximately \$25 million in cash and 2,541,000 shares of NRG common stock. NRG’s chapter 11 creditors holding allowed claims in Class 5 are expected to receive approximately \$22.13 per \$1,000.00 of allowed claim, consisting of \$4.05 in cash and 0.41 shares of NRG common stock. Creditors holding Class 6 allowed claims are expected to receive approximately \$19.97 per \$1,000.00 of allowed claim, consisting of \$1.89 in cash and 0.41 shares of NRG common stock.

Item 4 — Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None.

PART II

Item 5 — *Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities*

Market Information and Holders

In connection with the consummation of our reorganization, on December 5, 2003, all shares of our old common stock were canceled and 100,000,000 shares of new common stock of NRG were distributed pursuant to such plan in accordance with Section 1145 of the bankruptcy code to the holders of certain classes of claims. We received no proceeds from such issuance. A certain number of shares of common stock were issued and placed in the Disputed Claims Reserve for distribution to holders of disputed claims as such claims are resolved or settled. See Item 3 — Legal Proceedings — Disputed Claims Reserve. In the event our disputed claims reserve is inadequate, it is possible we will have to issue additional shares of our common stock to satisfy such pre-petition claims or contribute additional cash proceeds. Our authorized capital stock consists of 500,000,000 shares of NRG common stock and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock. A total of 4,000,000 shares of our common stock are available for issuance under our long-term incentive plan. We have also filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware a Certificate of Designation for each of the following shares of preferred stock: (i) our 4% Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock; (ii) our 3.625% Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock and (iii) our 5.75% Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock. We also issued 35,406,292 shares of our common stock in connection with the Texas Genco Acquisition as described below. Also in connection with the Texas Genco Acquisition we issued 20,855,057 shares of common stock in a public offering; 2,000,000 shares of our 5.75% Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock in a public offering; and \$3.6 billion of unsecured high yield notes.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and has been assigned the symbol: NRG. We have submitted to the New York Stock Exchange our annual certificate from our Chief Executive Officer certifying that he is not aware of any violation by us of New York Stock Exchange corporate governance listing standards. The high and low sales prices, as well as the closing price for our common stock on a per share basis for 2005 and 2004 are set forth below:

<u>Common Stock Price</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter 2005</u>	<u>Third Quarter 2005</u>	<u>Second Quarter 2005</u>	<u>First Quarter 2005</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter 2004</u>	<u>Third Quarter 2004</u>	<u>Second Quarter 2004</u>	<u>First Quarter 2004</u>
High	\$ 49.44	\$ 44.45	\$ 37.61	\$ 39.10	\$ 36.18	\$ 28.43	\$ 24.80	\$ 22.50
Low	\$ 37.60	\$ 36.40	\$ 30.30	\$ 32.79	\$ 26.00	\$ 24.10	\$ 19.17	\$ 18.10
Closing	\$ 47.12	\$ 42.60	\$ 30.70	\$ 34.15	\$ 36.05	\$ 26.94	\$ 24.80	\$ 22.20

NRG had 80,701,888 shares outstanding as of December 31, 2005, and as of March 3, 2006, there were 136,975,275 shares outstanding. As of February 10, 2006, there were approximately 27,000 common stockholders of record.

Dividends

We have not declared or paid dividends on our common stock and the amount available for dividends is currently limited by our senior secured credit agreements and high yield note indentures.

Recent Sale of Unregistered Securities; Repurchase of Common Stock

On February 2, 2006, NRG acquired Texas Genco LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, by purchasing all of the outstanding equity interests in Texas Genco pursuant to the Acquisition Agreement, dated September 30, 2005, by and among NRG, Texas Genco, and each of the direct and indirect owners of Texas Genco, or the Sellers. A portion of the consideration paid to the Sellers consisted of 35,406,292 shares of our common stock to the Sellers in a private placement in reliance on Section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

On August 11, 2005, we entered into an Accelerated Share Repurchase Agreement with Credit Suisse First Boston, or CSFB, pursuant to which we repurchased \$250 million of our common stock on that date that equaled a total of 6,346,788 shares, which were held in treasury. We funded the repurchase with cash on hand. On March 3, 2006, we paid to CSFB a cash purchase price adjustment of approximately \$7 million based upon the weighted average value of NRG's common stock over a period of approximately six months, subject to a minimum price of 97% and a maximum price of 103% of the closing price per share on August 10, 2005, or \$39.39.

The following table summarizes the stock repurchased by NRG Energy:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Total Number of Shares Purchased</u>	<u>Average Price Paid per Share</u>	<u>Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans</u>	<u>Maximum Number of Shares That May Yet be Purchased Under the Plans</u>
August 11, 2005	6,346,788*	\$ 39.90	none	N/A

* 6,346,788 shares were purchased as part of the Accelerated Share Repurchase Agreement with CSFB as described above.

Redemption and Repurchase of Second Priority Notes

During 2005 we redeemed and repurchased approximately \$645 million of our Second Priority Notes in a number of stages as described in the following table:

<u>Date of Redemption or Repurchase</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Source</u>
January 2005	\$25 million face value repurchased	Existing cash
February 2005	\$375 million redeemed	Proceeds from the sale of the 4% Preferred Stock in December 2004
March 2005	\$15.8 million face value repurchased	Existing Cash
September 2005 ...	\$229 million redeemed	Proceeds from the sale of the 3.625% Preferred Stock in August 2005

As of December 31, 2005, the outstanding balance of our Second Priority Notes was approximately \$1.1 billion. All outstanding Second Priority Notes were tendered, paid off and defeased on February 2-3, 2006, using funds received from a number of financial transactions as described in Item 15 — Note 34 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans

	(a)	(b)	(c)
Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders . .	2,593,179	\$ 25.04	1,355,193*
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders . .	—	n/a	—
Total	2,593,179	\$ 25.04	1,355,193*

* The NRG Energy, Inc. Long-Term Incentive Plan became effective upon our emergence from bankruptcy. The Long-Term Incentive Plan, which was adopted in connection with the NRG plan of reorganization, was approved by our stockholders on August 4, 2004. The Long-Term Incentive Plan provides for grants of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, performance awards, deferred stock units and dividend equivalent rights. Our directors, officers and employees, as well as other individuals performing services for, or to whom an offer of employment has been extended by us, are eligible to receive grants under the Long-Term Incentive Plan. A total of 4,000,000 shares of our common stock are available for issuance under the Long-Term Incentive Plan. The purpose of the Long-Term Incentive Plan is to promote our long-term growth and profitability by providing these individuals with incentives to maximize stockholder value and otherwise contribute to our success and to enable us to attract, retain and reward the best available persons for positions of responsibility. The Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors administers the Long-Term Incentive Plan. There were 1,355,193 and 2,053,294 shares of common stock remaining available for grants of stock options under our Long-Term Incentive Plan as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

Item 6 — Selected Financial Data

The following table presents our historical selected financial data. The data included in the following table has been restated to reflect the assets, liabilities and results of operations of certain projects that have met the criteria for treatment as discontinued operations. For additional information refer to Item 15 — Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The historical financial data does not reflect any amounts for the purchase of Texas Genco as the Acquisition closed after December 31, 2005.

This historical data should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and the related notes thereto in Item 15 and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” in Item 7. Due to the adoption of Fresh Start reporting as of December 5, 2003, the Successor Company’s post Fresh Start balance sheet and statement of operations have not been prepared on a consistent basis with the Predecessor Company’s financial statements and are not comparable in certain respects to the financial statements prior to the application of Fresh Start reporting.

	Reorganized NRG			Predecessor Company		
	Year Ended December 31, 2005	2004	December 6 - December 31, 2003	January 1 - December 5, 2003	Year Ended December 31, 2002	2001
	(In millions, except per share amounts)					
Revenues from majority-owned operations	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,348	\$ 137	\$ 1,798	\$ 1,926	\$ 2,085
Corporate relocation charges	6	16	—	—	—	—
Reorganization, restructuring and impairment charges . . .	6	32	2	435	2,497	—
Fresh start reporting adjustments	—	—	—	(4,220)	—	—
Legal settlement	—	—	—	463	—	—
Total operating costs and expenses	2,470	1,955	122	(1,587)	4,231	1,704
Write downs and losses on equity method investments	(31)	(16)	—	(147)	(200)	—
Income/(loss) from continuing operations	77	161	11	3,082	(2,693)	211
Income/(loss) from discontinued operations, net	7	25	—	(316)	(771)	55
Net income/(loss)	84	186	11	2,766	(3,464)	265
Income/(loss) from continuing operations per weighted average share — basic	\$ 0.67	\$ 1.61	\$ 0.11			
Income/(loss) from continuing operations per weighted average share — diluted	\$ 0.66	\$ 1.60	\$ 0.11			
Total assets	7,431	7,864	9,315	N/A	10,897	12,915
Long-term debt, including current maturities	\$ 2,682	\$ 3,484	\$ 3,846	N/A	\$ 7,217	\$ 6,291

The following table provides the detail of our revenues from majority-owned operations:

	Reorganized NRG			Predecessor Company		
	Year Ended December 31,		December 6 - December 31, 2003	January 1 - December 5, 2003	Year Ended December 31,	
	2005	2004			2002	2001
	(In millions)					
Energy	\$2,014	\$1,364	\$ 64	\$ 910	\$1,172	\$1,376
Capacity	563	612	37	566	553	490
Hedging and risk management activities	(248)	76	2	19	7	—
Alternative energy	191	176	12	82	98	162
O&M fees	20	21	1	13	14	16
Other	168	99	21	208	82	41
Total revenues from majority-owned operations	\$2,708	\$2,348	\$ 137	\$ 1,798	\$1,926	\$2,085

Energy revenue consists of revenues received from third parties for sales in the day-ahead and real-time markets, as well as bilateral sales. In addition, this category includes day-ahead and real-time operating revenues.

Capacity revenue consists of revenues received from a third party at either the market or negotiated contract rates for making installed generation capacity available in order to satisfy system integrity and reliability requirements. In addition, capacity revenues includes revenues received under tolling arrangements which entitle third parties to dispatch our facilities and assume title to the electrical generation produced from that facility.

Hedging and Risk management activities includes fair value changes of financial instruments (derivatives) that have yet to be settled for the period, as well as, the revenues derived from the settlement of financial transactions relating to the sale of energy or fuel which do not require the physical delivery of the underlying commodity.

Alternative energy revenue consists of revenues received from the sale of steam, hot and chilled water generally produced at a central district energy plant and sold to commercial, governmental and residential buildings for space heating, domestic hot water heating and air conditioning. Alternative energy revenue includes the sale of high-pressure steam produced and delivered to industrial customers that is used as part of an industrial process. In addition, alternative revenue includes revenues received from the processing of municipal solid waste into refuse derived fuel that is sold to a third party to be used as fuel in the generation of electricity.

Operations and management, or O&M, fees consist primarily of revenues received from providing certain unconsolidated affiliates with management and operational services generally under long-term operating agreements.

Other revenues consist of miscellaneous other revenues derived from the sale of natural gas, recovery of incurred costs under reliability agreements and revenues received under leasing arrangements. In addition, we also generate revenues from maintenance, the sale of ancillary services excluding day-ahead. Ancillary revenues are derived from the sale of energy related products associated with the generation of electrical energy such as spinning reserves, reactive power and other similar products.

Item 7 — Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Introduction and Overview

NRG Energy, Inc., or "NRG Energy", the "Company", "we", "our", or "us" is a wholesale power generation company, primarily engaged in the ownership and operation of power generation facilities, the transacting in and trading of fuel and transportation services and the marketing and trading of energy, capacity and related products in the United States and internationally. We have a diverse portfolio of electric generation facilities in terms of geography, fuel type and dispatch levels. As of the close of the Acquisition, our principal domestic generation assets consist of a diversified mix of natural gas-, coal-, oil-fired and nuclear facilities, representing approximately 45%, 34%, 16% and 5% of our total domestic generation capacity, respectively. In addition, 10% of our domestic generating facilities have dual or multiple fuel capacity, which allows plants to dispatch with the lowest cost fuel option.

In this discussion and analysis, we will discuss and explain the general financial condition and the results of operations for NRG during 2005 that will include the points below:

- Factors which affect our business,
- Our earnings and costs in the periods presented,
- Changes in earnings and costs between periods,
- Sources of earnings,
- Impact of these factors on our overall financial condition,
- A discussion of known trends, including the expected impact of the Texas Genco Acquisition, that will affect our future results of operations and financial condition,
- Expected future expenditures for capital projects, and
- Expected sources of cash for future operations and capital expenditures.

As you read this discussion and analysis, refer to our Consolidated Statements of Income, which present the results of our operations for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, the period of December 6, 2003 through December 31, 2003 and for the period of January 1, 2003 through December 5, 2003. We analyze and explain the differences between periods in the specific line items of our Consolidated Statements of Income. However, it is important to note that the historical financial information does not include any results of operation or the financial condition of Texas Genco.

We have organized our discussion and analysis as follows:

- First, we discuss our strategy.
- We then describe the business environment in which we operate including how regulation, weather, and other factors affect our business.
- We highlight significant events that are important to understanding our results of operations and financial condition.
- We then review our results of operations discussing:
 - An overview of our total company results, followed by a more detailed review of those results by operating segment.
 - Known trends that will affect our results of operations in the future.
- We review our financial condition addressing:
 - Our sources and uses of cash, credit ratings, capital resources and requirements, commitments, and off-balance sheet arrangements.
 - Known trends that will affect our financial condition in the future.

- Next, we discuss our critical accounting policies. These are the accounting policies that are most important to both the portrayal of our financial condition and results of operations and require management's most difficult, subjective or complex judgment.

Our Strategy

Our strategy is to optimize the value of our generation assets while using that asset base as a platform for enhanced financial performance which can be sustained and expanded upon in years to come. We plan to maintain and enhance our position as a leading wholesale power generation company in the United States in a cost effective and risk-mitigating manner in order to serve the bulk power requirements of our customer base and other entities that offer load, or otherwise consume wholesale electricity products and services in bulk. Our strategy includes the following elements:

Increase value from our existing assets. We have a highly diversified portfolio of power generation assets in terms of region, fuel type and dispatch levels. We will continue to focus on extracting value from our portfolio by improving plant performance, reducing costs and harnessing our advantages of scale in the procurement of fuels: a strategy that we have branded "FORNRG," or Focus on ROIC@NRG.

Pursue intrinsic growth opportunities at existing sites in our core regions. We are favorably positioned to pursue growth opportunities through expansion of our existing generating capacity. We intend to invest in our existing assets through plant improvements, repowering and brownfield development to meet anticipated regional requirements for new capacity. We expect that these efforts will provide more efficient energy, lower our delivered cost, expand our electricity production capability and improve our ability to dispatch economically across all sections of the merit order, including baseload, intermediate and peaking generation.

Maintain financial strength and flexibility. We remain focused on increasing cash flow and maintaining liquidity and balance sheet strength in order to ensure continued access to capital for growth; enhancing risk-adjusted returns; and providing flexibility in executing our business strategy. We will continue our focus on maintaining operational and financial controls designed to ensure that our financial position remains strong.

Reduce the volatility of our cash flows through asset-based commodity hedging activities. We will continue to execute asset-based risk management, hedging, marketing and trading strategies within well-defined risk and liquidity guidelines in order to manage the value of our physical and contractual assets. Our marketing and hedging philosophy is centered on generating stable returns from our portfolio of power generation assets while preserving the ability to capitalize on strong spot market conditions and to capture the extrinsic value of our portfolio. We believe that we can successfully execute this strategy by taking advantage of our expertise in marketing power and ancillary services, our knowledge of markets, our flexible financial structure and our diverse portfolio of power generation assets.

Participate in continued industry consolidation. We will continue to pursue selective acquisitions, joint ventures and divestitures to enhance our asset mix and competitive position in our core regions to meet the fuel and dispatch requirements in these regions. We intend to concentrate on acquisition and joint venture opportunities that present attractive risk-adjusted returns. We will also opportunistically pursue other strategic transactions, including mergers, acquisitions or divestitures during the consolidation of the power generation industry in the United States.

Business Environment

General Industry — This past year, the energy and power sector has been shaken by significant events and change. These have shifted the industry's focus toward more efficient energy and fuel management, infrastructure developmental needs, and scope and scale merits. Those events include:

- Hurricanes Katrina and Rita exacerbated an already tight national natural gas production and delivery system during record summer demand. This led to significant price spikes and volatility across all fuel sources, which in turn spurred regulatory concerns over excessive burdens on retail consumers and

renewed interest by incumbent utilities in securing long-term power supplies that are not tied to the price of natural gas.

- The Energy Policy Act of 2005, or EPAct, the most comprehensive energy legislation in more than a decade, was enacted in August 2005. EPAct reinforces FERC oversight and monitoring responsibilities and encourages the development of regulatory framework that provide the appropriate market signals for increased infrastructure investment including generation.
- While financial and strategic buyers continue to participate in energy sector asset sales and acquisitions, there has been renewed interest within the power sector for scope and scale and renewed merger and acquisitions activities by existing owners of power generation. This year has also seen regulated utilities seeking to participate in the competitive markets through outright combinations with deregulated entities.
- The EPA released its CAIR and CAMR guidelines in March. While there continues to be uncertainty as to the implementation standards by certain states, these environmental requirements coupled with potential improved scrubber technologies provide additional clarity with respect to longer term compliance strategies that will drive higher capital expenditure programs towards the end of the decade for many energy providers.
- There has been contentious but continued progress towards capacity markets evolution in order to meet increasing demand and encourage new investment in transmission and generation in load pockets around the country, including New England and California.

Competition — Wholesale power generation is a capital-intensive, commodity-driven business with numerous industry participants. We compete on the basis of the location of our plants and owning multiple plants in our regions, which increases the stability and reliability of our energy supply. Wholesale power generation is fundamentally a local business which, at present, is highly fragmented (relative to other commodity industries) and diverse in terms of industry structure. As such, there is a wide variation in terms of the capabilities, resources, nature and identity of the companies we compete against from market to market.

Regulatory Matters — As an operator of power plants and a participant in wholesale energy markets, we are subject to regulation by various federal and state government agencies. These include FERC, NRC, PUCT and certain state public utility commissions in which our generating assets are located. In addition, we are also subject to the market rules, procedures and protocols of the various ISO markets in which we participate. The plant operations of, and wholesale electric sales from our Texas assets are not currently subject to regulation by FERC, as they are deemed to operate solely within the ERCOT and not in interstate commerce. These operations are subject to regulations by PUCT as well as to regulation by the NRC with respect to its ownership interest in the STP.

Weather — Weather conditions in the different regions of the United States influence the financial results of our business. Weather conditions can affect the supply of and demand for electricity and fuels. Changes in energy supply and demand may impact the price of these energy commodities in both the spot market and the forward market, which may affect our results in any given period. Typically, demand for electricity and its price are higher in the summer and the winter, when temperatures are more extreme. The demand for and price of natural gas and oil are higher in the winter. However, all regions of North America typically do not experience extreme weather conditions at the same time, thus we are not typically exposed to the effects of extreme weather in all parts of our business at once.

Other Factors — A number of other factors significantly influence the level and volatility of prices for energy commodities and related derivative products for our business. These factors include:

- seasonal daily and hourly changes in demand,
- extreme peak demands,
- available supply resources,
- transportation and transmission availability and reliability within and between regions,

- location of our generating facilities relative to the location of our load-serving opportunities,
- procedures used to maintain the integrity of the physical electricity system during extreme conditions, and
- changes in the nature and extent of federal and state regulations

These factors can affect energy commodity and derivative prices in different ways and to different degrees. These effects may vary throughout the country as a result of regional differences in:

- weather conditions,
- market liquidity,
- capability and reliability of the physical electricity and gas systems,
- local transportation systems, and
- the nature and extent of electricity deregulation.

Environmental Matters and Legal Proceedings — We discuss details of our environmental matters in Item 15 — Note 27 to our Consolidated Financial Statements and Item 1 Business — Environmental Matters section. We discuss details of our legal proceedings in Item 15 — Note 25 to our Consolidated Financial Statements. Some of this information is about costs that may be material to our financial results.

Impact of inflation on our results — Unless discussed specifically in the relevant segment, for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004, the period of December 6 through December 31, 2003 and the period January 1, 2003 through December 5, 2003 the impact of inflation and changing prices (due to changes in exchange rates) on our revenue and income from continuing operations was immaterial.

Results of Operations

Note: These historical results do not include the results of Texas Genco, and therefore represent the results of NRG Energy, Inc.'s consolidated results only for the periods presented.